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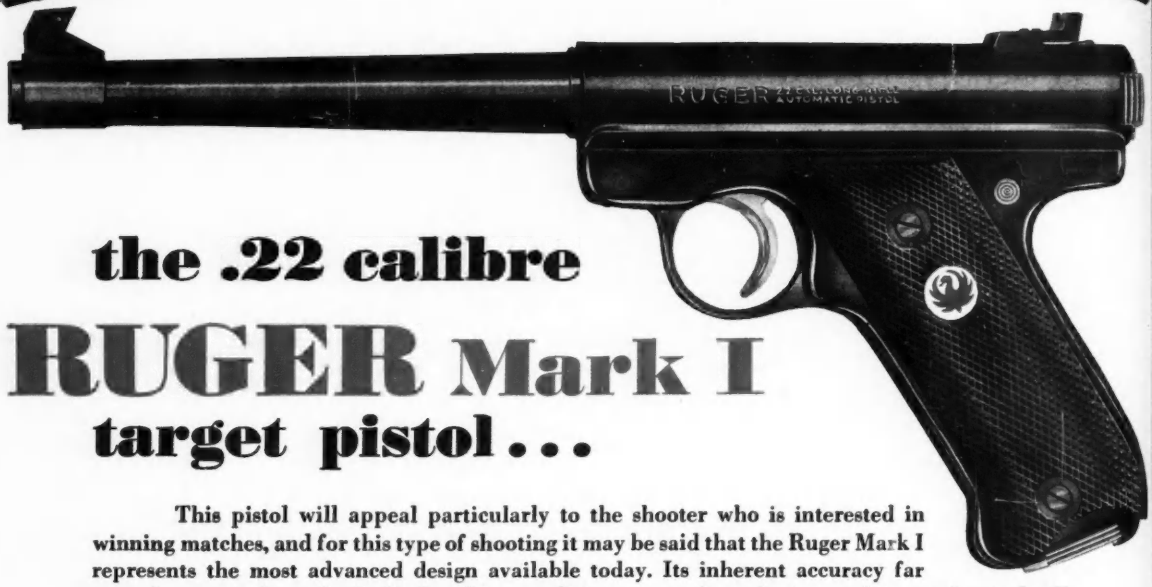

the .22 calibre

RUGER Mark I

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This pistol will appeal particularly to the shooter who is interested in winning matches, and for this type of shooting it may be said that the Ruger Mark I represents the most advanced design available today. Its inherent accuracy far exceeds accepted standards. Its handling qualities approach perfection and its mechanical reliability is above question. Yet with all its target gun qualities, the Mark I retains the handsome characteristic Ruger appearance.

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SPECIFICATIONS (RUGER MARK I – TARGET PISTOL)

Calibre: .22 Long Rifle only, Hi-Speed or regular velocity loading.

Barrel: Length, 6⅞″, heavy weight, 6 groove rifling, 14″ twist, burnish reamed.

Weight: 42 ounces.

Overall Length: 10⅞″.

Sights: Patridge style, front blade .125″ wide, undercut and hardened. Micro rear sight, click adjustments for windage and elevation. Sight radius, 9⅜″.

Magazine: Detachable, 9 shot capacity.

Trigger: Grooved, curved finger surface, ⅜″ wide. Light crisp pull, no backlash.

Safety: Locks sear and bolt. Cannot be put in safe position unless gun is cocked; marked to show position. May be used to lock bolt in open position.

Ignition mechanism: Chisel pointed alloy steel firing pin. High speed hammer.

Grips: Butaprene type hard rubber, black gloss finish, sharp diamond checkering.

Finish: Polished all over and blued.

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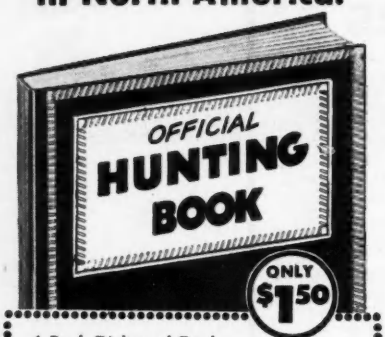

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The Rifle 1885-1888
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Arms and the Man 1906-19

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Vol. 98, No. 12 • December

Christmas Spirit an Editorial

Scopes for Hunting Rifles by Townsend Whelen
A down-to-earth discussion of scope sights, by the dean of American arms writers

History on American Powder Horns by Stephen V. Grancsay
The powder horn was more than a carry-all to the soldier of 18th century America

Problems of Gun Assembly by Harold E. MacFarland
Taking 'em apart and putting 'em together again has plagued many a gunsmith

Idaho Elk Hunt by Pete Barrett
A picture story that conveys the true flavor of Idaho's famed Primitive Area

Accuracy Specialist by Colonel A. M. Libasci
A gunsmith named Berdon can take some credit for a lot of national pistol records

Revolver Barrels and Velocity by Philip B. Sharpe
Does the .357 lose punch if you shorten the barrel? Here's an authoritative answer

This Coating Business by Elsa and Robert J. Reichert
Time was when words meant what they said. Nowadays you can't always be sure

NRA Small Arms Training Program

Quality of Jap Rifles by Lt. LeRoy A. Morgan, Jr.
Nipponese smallarms vary from good bets for hunting to sure bets for suicide

New Junior Qualification Courses

Bench Rest Roundup by Al Barr
The boys on the benches are still trying to put all of their bullets into one hole

1950 Sniper—1903 Rifle by Major Lyman L. Woodman
A piece of photographic evidence which indicates that it's still a rifleman's war

Baby .22's of Other Days by Herschel C. Logan
The pocket pistols of decades past are becoming favorites of many a gun collector

Spotting Scope

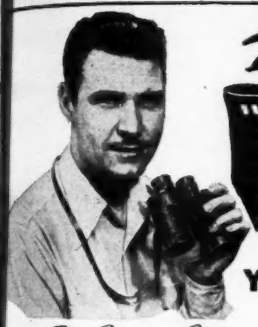
Index, 1950 Issues

COVER

The powder horn on this month's cover, photographed on Kodachrome by Bob Holland, is owned by Lucius Mahon of Ludlow, Vt., in whose family it has been for many years. It is marked "Samuel Campton His Horn February the 26 1764." For more on American powder horns, read the article by Stephen Grancsay beginning on page 16.

Published monthly by the NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, 1600 RHODE I AVENUE, WASHINGTON 6, D. C. Domestic Rates (North, South, and Central America) a year, $7.00 for two years, $10 for three years; elsewhere add $.60 per year for postage. Entered as second-class matter, April 1, 1908, at the post office at Washington, under act of March 3, 1879. Copyright, 1950, National Rifle Association of America. All reserved. For change of address, give both new and old address as the latter appe address label. Not responsible for loss or damage to unsolicited manuscripts or

Dave Bushnell says...



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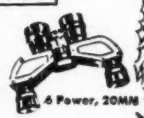

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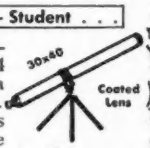

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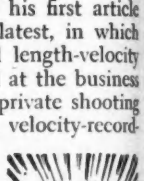
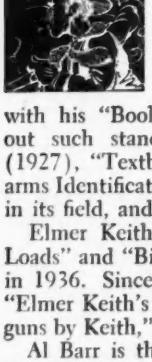
InCidenTa/Ly

Beginning with the next issue (January 1951) there will be a new contributor among those making up the RIFLEMAN's 'panel of experts.' To fill the spot vacated by Bud Waite (now captain, Armored Force, Fort Knox, Kentucky) . . . and joining the familiar names of Julian S. Hatcher, Al Barr, and Elmer Keith . . . will be that of arms writer and long-time RIFLEMAN contributor Phil Sharpe.

Sharpe is no stranger to RIFLEMAN readers, having sold his first article to its predecessor, Arms and the Man, in 1921. Sharpe's latest, in which he presents the final instalment of his authoritative barrel length-velocity study, appears on pages 34 to 39 of this issue. An old hand at the business of answering gunbug questions, Phil has perhaps the finest private shooting laboratory in the United States, complete with dependable velocity-recording equipment. As a writer of books, Sharpe is one of the country's best-known, having to his credit two of the fattest gun books thus far published—the monumental "Rifle in America," and "Complete Guide to Handloading."



Sharpe's background has been unusually well adapted to the proposition of becoming a 'gun expert.' He attended the National Rifle and Pistol Matches at Camp Perry from 1927, and for years has had entree to the nation's small-arms plants and ballistic laboratories. Three years as an Ordnance officer during the last war broadened his horizons, and as an Ordnance intelligence officer he had an unprecedented opportunity to familiarize himself with the arms and ammunition of the European continent. On top of this, fourteen years experience maintaining a gunbug's question-and-answer department in another magazine have given him the know-how that enables him to put his wealth of theoretical knowledge to practical application.



We stopped long enough the other day to count the books which have been turned out by present members of the Dope Bag staff, and found that the RIFLEMAN 'panel of experts' has written thirteen volumes on the subject of firearms and their application. Julian Hatcher is in the lead with six . . . commencing with a study of machine guns published in 1917, and winding up with his "Book of the Garand" (1948). Between the two he turned out such standard works as "Pistols and Revolvers and Their Use" (1927), "Textbook of Pistols and Revolvers" (1935), "Textbook of Firearms Identification, Investigation and Evidence" (1935), still the basic work in its field, and "Hatcher's Notebook" (1947).

Elmer Keith trails Hatcher by but one. His "Sixgun Cartridges and Loads" and "Big Game Rifles and Cartridges" were published by Samworth in 1936. Since then Keith has written "Rifles for Large Game" (1946), "Elmer Keith's Big Game Hunting" (1948), and the just-published "Shotguns by Keith," reviewed elsewhere in this issue.

Al Barr is the only one of the group who has no books to his credit. Despite the pleas of one publisher after another for the reloading book which (among others) he has at his fingertips, the genial Al manages to be too busy learning new things to stop and put some of the 'old' things down on paper for the rest of us.

Sharpe's two books top the list for bulk (combined weight, 9 pounds), and each remains the standard reference in its field. His nearly 800-page work, "The Rifle in America," was published in 1947, and "Complete Guide to Handloading" has gone into a third edition since its first appearance in 1937.

All in all, the published output of the people who answer questions for RIFLEMAN readers adds up to an impressive stack of printed matter . . . and an imposing testimonial to their qualifications as "gun experts."

JS

RIFLEMAN Words . . .

A lexicon for shooters which gives the meanings of words and terms used in articles.

FREE BORING—A smoothbore section of the barrel just forward of the chamber from which the rifling has been reamed and through which the bullet passes before taking the rifling. A barrel may be free bored for a distance of from ¼ inch up to three inches or more.

MICROMETER MOUNT — A two-unit mount for a telescope sight, one or both of which permits movement of the scope within the mount unit by means of knobs in it. The use of this type mount enables the shooter to make precise adjustments of one-half or one-quarter minute of angle in the aiming of the rifle.

OCULAR LENS—A magnifying lens, sometimes referred to as the eyepiece, used for viewing an image formed by the lens or system of lenses preceding it in an optical system. An eyepiece may be a single lens, but in better optical equipment it is usually a compound lens.

OPTICAL SIGHTS — Sights containing a series of lenses to form an optical system, the entire aiming system being contained in one unit. Optical sights do not necessarily have telescopic properties. The optical system may merely include range-indicating, or range-estimating devices, plus the necessary means of adjusting for elevation and windage. Most optical sights as used on small arms are of the telescopic type.

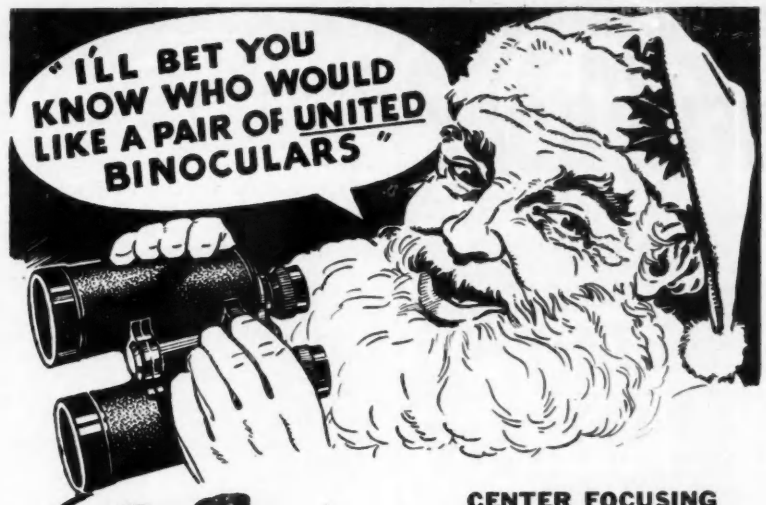
PARABELLUM—Means "for war." It is the popular European name for the German Pistol '08, the Luger though it is also applied to the 9-mm. German service pistol cartridge to distinguish it from the 9-mm. Short.

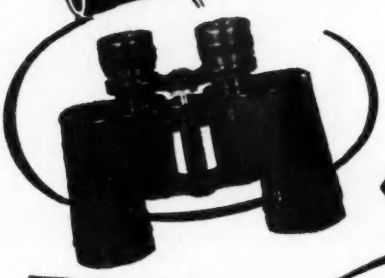
POWDER FLASK — A case in which to carry gunpowder. Flasks are made of wood, leather, shell or metal as well well as horn. The most widely used form is the powder horn, the larger end being closed permanently and the smaller temporarily with a wooden plug. Some styles of flasks are quite distinctive, of particular times and places, but each type was widely distributed. The name flask is confined to those used for charge powder; the smaller ones used for priming powder are called primers. Flasks are still used with muzzleloading guns.

RECEIVER BRIDGE—The rearward portion of the receiver which forms an arch over the rear of the bolt race-way. If there is an opening cut through the receiver bridge to permit the passage of the bolt handle, the construction is referred to as a split bridge receiver.

SLIDE—In semiautomatic pistols, a metal sleeve covering part or all of the barrel and sometimes the top of the action. It usually forms the breechblock. It is driven to the rear by recoil and returned to its forward position by spring action.

STRIPPING—Failure of a bullet to take the rifling because of excessive powder charge, improper diameter, or incorrect alloy. When a bullet strips, it usually does not go true from the gun because spin has not been imparted to it and flies off the normal trajectory that would have been taken had it not stripped.





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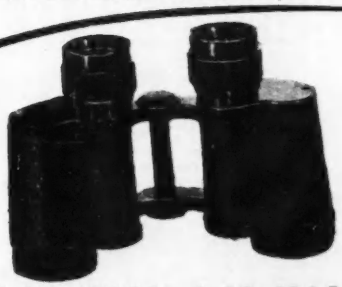

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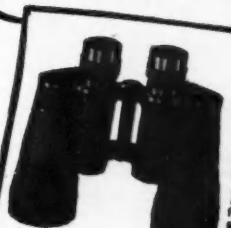

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Arms and Ammunition Editor,
Outdoor Life

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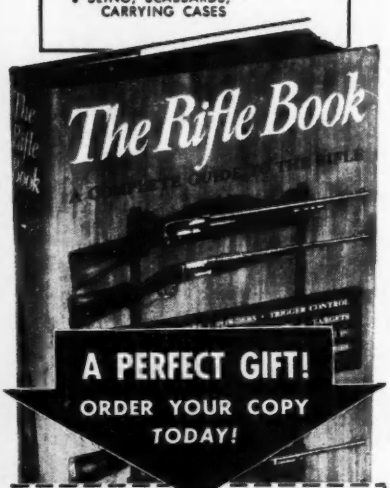

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NEWFOUNDLAND MOOSE

St. John's, Newfoundland
Canada

Editor:

In spite of the fact that I enjoyed Colonel Whelen's article, "Moose Hunting Today" (October), I would like to point out a very gross error—especially to the Newfoundlander.

Newfoundland is a province of Canada (42,734 sq. mi.) located east of the Rockies in which moose may be hunted legally, and, incidentally, during rutting season, 1st to 30th of September, as well as from the 1st of November to the 31st of December.

Perhaps the lack of knowledge is exemplified by the fact that only 55 non-resident licenses were sold during 1949 in a province where 2,000 moose are killed legally each year.

According to the Chief Ranger, Captain Harry Walters, 5914 big game licenses were issued in 1949 and reports from 95 percent of the holders reveal that 2006 moose and 221 caribou were killed. This is believed to be more moose than were killed on all the rest of the North American continent.

An aerial survey covering 475 square miles conducted from the 21st to the 28th of September this year revealed a density of .41 moose and .46 caribou per square mile. On one flight covering 176 square miles, 126 moose were observed, a density of .72 per square mile.

WILLIAM W. BOWDEN
Captain, USAF

PAY DIRT

Pittsburgh, Pa.

Editor:

When the November issue of the RIFLEMAN arrived today, it was a matter of striking 'pay dirt' for me. I was very pleased over the article "Hardtack and Black Powder" by A. O. Niedner. Also the article on loads for the .45-70. I felt that I had better sit down and write my appreciation, in hope that it may help to promote more such articles.

JOHN SOUTH

"DEFIANT" BEAR CUB

Washington, D. C.

Editor:

If you want to see a new low in sportsmanship, look at the piece called "A Defiant Cub is Killed" in the October 30 issue of *Life* magazine. See if you get as mad—not at *Life*—but at the thinking which made these pictures possible.

In Korea they report unfair killings as atrocities. I wonder what an atrocity is!

C. S. LIVERMORE

Long Branch, N. J.

Editor:

If the Dr. J. H. Burress depicted in this article is a member of the National Rifle Association, it is recommended that the truth of the incident be investigated . . . and if found to be as reported, that Dr. Burress' membership be permanently revoked.

JOHN F. BARUCH, President
Ft. Monmouth Rifle and Pistol Club

Jacksonville, Flor

Editor:

Acts such as this blackball the whole p of true sportsmanship. I would like to gest that if any of these so-called men b to the NRA they be dropped immedia

C. F. You

Columbus, O

Editor:

I hope you . . . saw the brave deed by Dr. J. H. Burress and his companio the October 30 issue of *Life*. Imagine nerve it took to shoot a roped cub at 12 with a high-powered telescope-mounted after it had been scared half to death dogs! I suggest that you make an inve tion to see if this Dr. J. H. Burress is a m ber of the NRA.

MAX P. MONTAGU

● *No one named "J. H. Burress" appe on the active rolls of the NRA.—Ed.*

Los Angeles, Californi

Editor:

The so-called doctor who did the kill should be horsewhipped and fined $500 such an inhuman act. I think the same th about those half-wits who were with him.

C. B. SHILLIN

● *The 'hunters' shown in "Life's" a deserve the scorn of every sportsman, wh they are certain to get as a result of the p lication of their 'adventure'. To "Lif editors, a commendation for their forthrig ness in publishing a distasteful story—but o which will go far toward preventing a re rence of such a shameless act.—Ed.*

RECOMMENDED READING

Seattle, Washington

Editor:

Assuming that we are all interested proper legislation on firearm registrati may I suggest that everyone read Erle Stan Gardner's story, running currently in *Sp Afield*, titled "The Law That Leaked". A bit fantastic, but it could happen here

ERNEST BEA

● *The article began in the September is of "Sports Afield".—Ed.*

COLD STEEL

New York, New Yor

Editor:

In the economy of words, it appears t the writer left too much to the imaginat of Reader Fawcett (October, page 6). volved in the suggestion of eliminating handguard from the semiautomatic was implication that the handguard compris that area to the rear of the forward gun s would not be removed and would serve ample protection for the hand.

Now, as to "What, No Bayonet?" iterate to Readers Fawcett and Judkins e phatically, "No bayonet". The bayonet g some measure of protection to the soldier a time when arms had not been designed

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Dope Bag Jan. 1950

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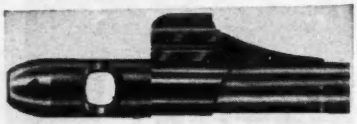

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furnish constant fire power. The bay proved to be obsolete when a variety of r fire automatic arms were introduced, and Germans, thoroughly convinced of this made no provision for the bayonet on semiautomatic rifles and carbines during latter part of World War II.

This question might be resolved quickly if you and your enemy were giv choice between 50 additional cartri (equal to the weight of the bayonet and appurtenances) and the bayonet alone.

WILL PIZNA

Prescott, Arizon

Editor:

"Military Semiautos" (September) wa cellent, especially the part condemning bayonet. But now one Judkins and Faw come along to uphold it (October).

As far as the average G. I. is concern think Bill Mauldin summed up the bay situation in his drawing that shows a holding a bayonet and an M1. The ca says, "Well, what do you know, this opener fits on the end of a rifle."

Fawcett even defends the stupid woo handguard. Did he ever see the effici perforated, metal sleeve used on the Jo son? This protects the hands and all the barrel to cool.

L. L. WOMAC

• *The debate among* RIFLEMAN *rea over the value of the bayonet, prompted William Piznak's article (Sept.), contin But has anyone noted the attitude of military?*

In the October issue of the "Infantry Sch (Fort Benning, Georgia) Quarterly," Ma Schiller F. Shore, Infantry, comments: "all know that the bayonet is seldom used kill an enemy. Combat experiences of Wo Wars I and II have pointed up this fact. is difficult to find a man who has actu killed with cold steel. Bullets are better; soldier in his right senses will engage i bayonet duel while he still has a loaded r Bullets are surer, easier."—Ed.

REGIONAL WINNER

Denver, Colorado

Editor:

In the write-up (November, page under the scores of Smallbore Regional To nament Results, you have printed an er in scores for the Rocky Mountain Regio Cimmaron, N.M., 6/17-6/18. You h listed M. Zietlow, with a score of 3123-1 as Expert winner. The records show that Zietlow placed twentieth in the Expert Cl I was the Expert Class winner with a s of 3158-170.

A. F. SARMA

NEW RECORD?

Mesa, Colorado

Editor:

In the November issue John Moyer st that the record spread of mule deer ant is 37¼ inches. My neighbor Ray Grun in 1943 killed a mule deer with a spread 42¼ inches with 11 points on the left s and 10 points on the right side. I measu this spread again today and it still is 4 inches. This deer was killed on the no slope of Grand Mesa in western Colora and the spread is now at the home of R Grundei here in Mesa.

JACK FORC

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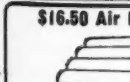

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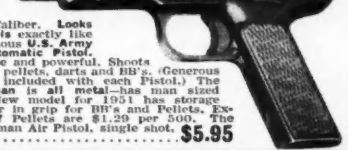

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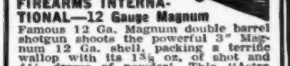

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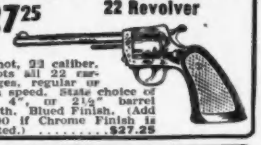

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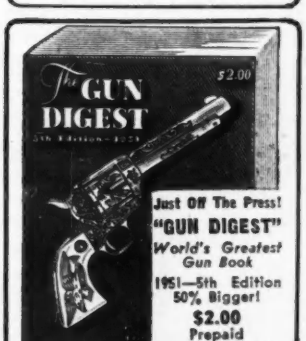


Christmas Spirit

Seemingly the Communists have not fared too well this year in America and other nations outside the Iron Curtain. People have awakened to Red efforts to infiltrate government jobs, to take over control of labor unions in key utilities, transport and war production industries and in the entertainment, legal and newspaper fields where propaganda can most easily be instituted.

While it is true that in too many cases the anti-Communist drive has been used for purposes of personal or political advantage it is equally true that, for the most part, the Communists have suffered sizable tactical losses.

But as Christmas approaches and our thoughts turn to the friendly good-will and good fellowship of the Christmas season we may well ask ourselves if the Communists have not actually made progress in their long-range, strategic planning even while suffering reverses in their short-range, tactical operations.

After all, the primary purpose of the Communist effort is to create confusion, to raise doubts as to the honesty, efficiency and good intentions of present leaders in religion, labor, farming, business, politics and other fields.

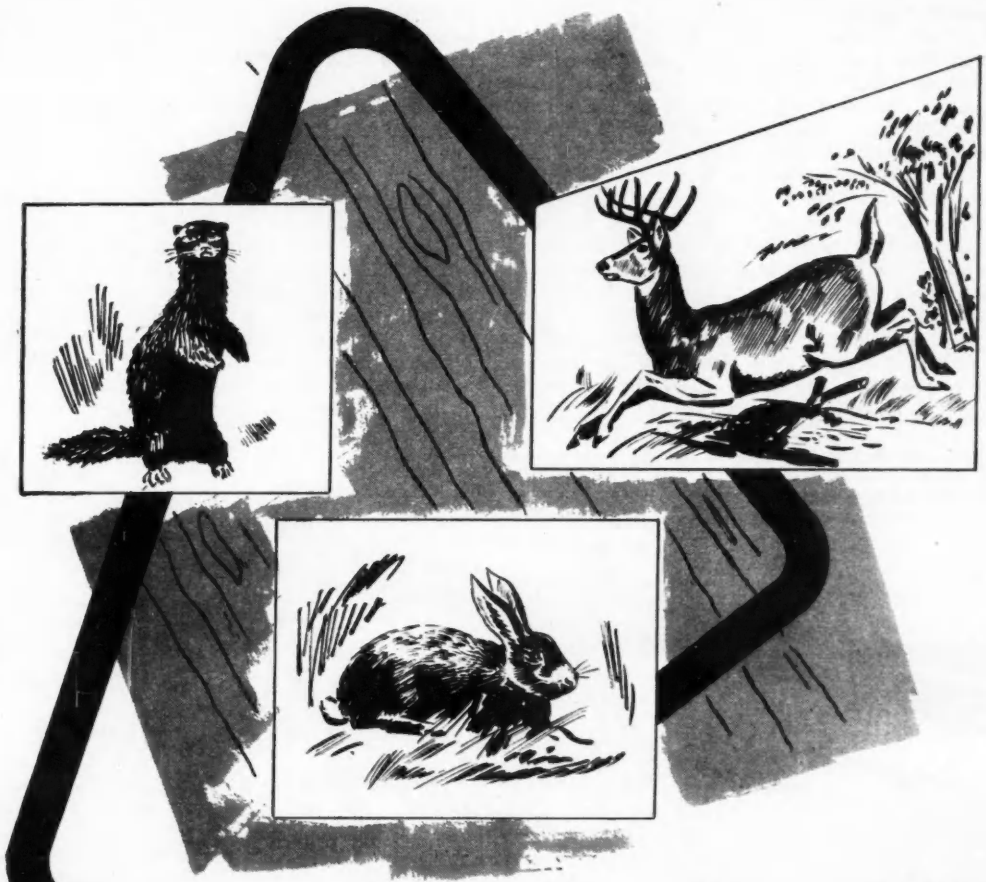
Communists lie when they feel they can get away with it. More often they skillfully manipulate half truths, loudly ask questions of the "When did you stop beating your wife" type, and boldly make unsupported charges so vague as to be impossible of direct answer, knowing full well that the charge will receive headlines while the answer will get only small space on an inside page.

Only a little thought is needed to bring a startled realization of the extent to which this type of operation has developed among Americans—most of whom ha no connection with or sympathy for the Communi movement. Tolerance, good sportsmanship, an earn desire to be fair and to understand the other fello viewpoint and problems—things which are the v essence of the democratic ideal—have given way amazing degree to intolerance, lack of sportsmansh and a desperate attempt to discredit the other fell before he has a chance to explain his problems and h viewpoint. This has been true in politics, in lab farm, business, educational and church groups, in c zens' associations. It has even begun to invade t place where it should be least expected—in sports' o ganizations in both professional and amateur fiel Unless good honest, loyal Americans take a quick lo at themselves they are going to awaken some morn to find that by their snarling, selfish lack of good ma ners and good sportsmanship toward one another th have done for the Commies what the Commies w unable to do for themselves—turn America into a d organized, distrustful mob, an easy prey for the tight disciplined little group who in every city are waitin for just such an opportunity to become our masters.

The Christmas spirit is anathema to the Communi Good will, good fellowship, mutual trust is the deat enemy of the poison spread by Moscow.

Think it over! May the Christmas spirit bri joy to you and yours this year. May it bring, too, realization of how far some of us have drifted aw from good sportsmanship into the rule-or-ruin tacti of the Kremlin—followed by a quiet resolution to ca the Christmas spirit into our dealings with our fell men through the trying months that lie ahead for Americans.

C B Lister



scopes for hunting rifles

BY COLONEL TOWNSEND WHELEN

Stemming from the telescope sights used on sniping rifles during the Civil War, modern hunting scopes are produced in a variety of styles, to handle a variety of jobs

THE TELESCOPE SIGHT for rifles dates back probably a hundred and fifty years. A few were used on sniper's rifles during our Civil War, and bench-rest shooters began to use them about the same time. But the records of the National Rifle Association show that they were scarcely used at all for 'four-position' target shooting or hunting until about 1899. Early scopes all had long tubes, with elevation and windage obtained by a rear mount which moved the rear end of the tube just as a metallic rear sight is moved. They were made in various magnifications from four to twenty power. This type of scope is still in existence in much improved form as our modern *target scope*. In its higher powers it permits almost errorless aim, and its double micrometer mounts allow very precise adjustment to quarter minutes (¼-inch at 100 yards), so that the shooter can keep his rifle continually sighted to group in the 10-ring. It is thus the preferred scope for the target shooter.

Target scopes, in powers from four to ten, are used considerably for small game and varmint shooting where the game is usually not moving and the aim does not have to be particularly hurried. Those who use scopes for this purpose prefer them because the micrometer rear mount permits precise adjustment to assure hitting a squirrel's head at 75 yards, or a woodchuck at perhaps 350 yards. Higher magnifications than 10 power are not suitable for hunting because the scope has to be focused for each distance at which used, and such focusing takes at least several minutes. A 10-power scope can be focused to give clear vision at 150 yards and will then be satisfactory from about 50 yards to infinity, and a 4-power scope has almost universal focus from 25 yards to infinity, and requires only one focusing for the individual's eyesight.

While target scopes of the lower powers are entirely suitable for game that is not moving rapidly, they are completely unsatisfactory, because their field of view is too small, for running game such as jack rabbits or coyotes, or for big

game that is moving or liable to move at any instant and the shot has to be hurried.

The *field of view* of a scope sight is the diameter in feet of the circular view (landscape) that is seen through the scope when the eye is held at the proper distance (*eye relief*) from the eyepiece. With a target scope of four power the field is about twenty feet in diameter at 100 yards, and with a ten power about nine feet. A field of nine feet is usually quite satisfactory for woodchuck shooting because you do not have to hurry your aim. But even with a 20-foot field the delay in catching aim and holding moving game in that field, makes such scopes quite unsatisfactory for big game where quick snapshots often have to be taken, or for any game moving faster than a walk.

Seeing Power: The greatest advantage of a scope for hunting, as compared with iron sights, is that the magnified view enables you to see your game more clearly, and to aim at it with greater certainty and accuracy. Thus the higher the magnifying power, the more accurate the aim. This would be true if other optical and light conditions were equally good. But seeing power depends on other things such as light, background, and the hunter's eyesight, so that the following statements, while not exact, will nevertheless prove a fairly satisfactory guide.

The best of iron hunting sights do not permit very clear and accurate aim at squirrels beyond about fifty yards, at woodchucks beyond about one hundred yards, and at deer beyond about 225 yards.

A good 2½-power scope will enable you to aim satisfactorily on squirrels to 75 yards, chucks to 150, and deer to 300 yards, and a 4-power will allow you to aim to about 100, 250, and 400 yards respectively.

An 8-power or 10-power scope, when used in good light, will give you that surety of aim so necessary to hit chucks at 300 yards and beyond, but the field of view is entirely too narrow for big game.

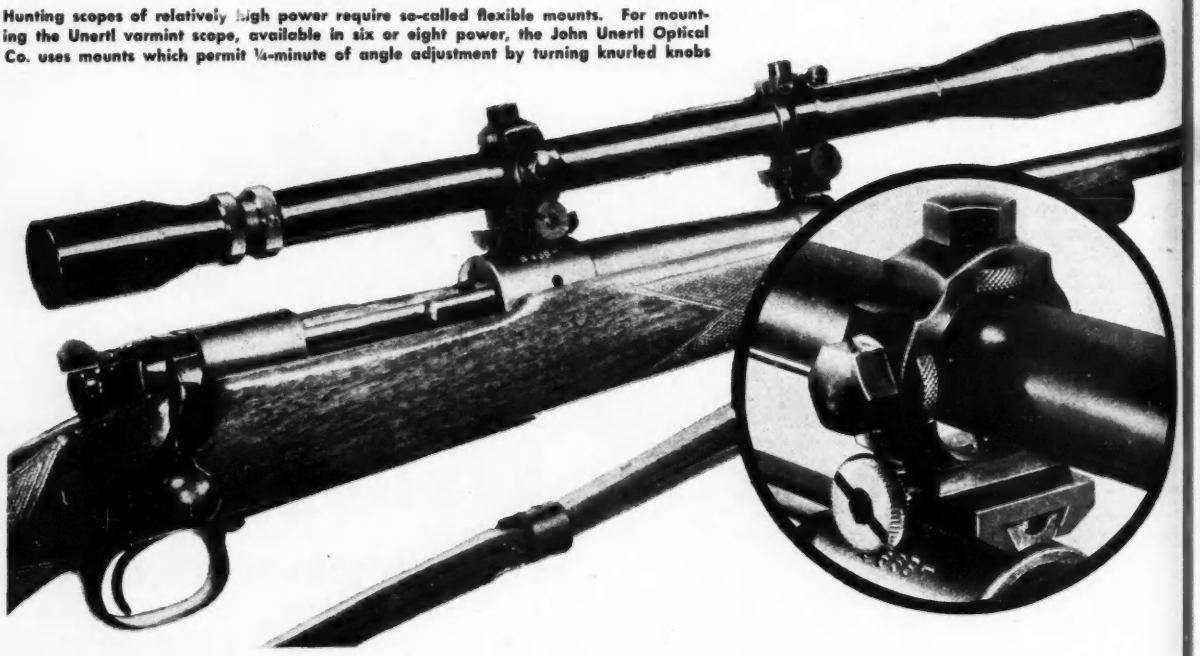
Scopes of over 8 power are suitable only for shooting in the prone position or with a rest. When shooting in the standing position with the higher powers, your tremors are so magnified that they are confusing.

Seeing power also depends on the illumination or light-gathering qualities of the scope. The brighter the field, the better you can see. Illumination depends upon the power of the scope (the lower powers are the brighter) and on the diameter of the front (object) lens. It is a good rule to purchase the scope with the largest object lens you can afford.

Big-game scopes: Scopes with very short tubes (10 to 12 inches), of low magnification (2¼ to 4 power), and with very wide field of view (25 to 38 feet) began to be imported into the United States from Germany about 1908. They were intended to be rigidly mounted on the rifle, and adjustments for elevation and windage were obtained by moving the reticle (crosshairs or post) inside the tube by means of graduated dials on the outside of the tube. We did not begin to use or study this form of scope in this country until about 1919. After that they rapidly became popular for big-game rifles because of their wide field of view, their rigid and strong mounting, and their compactness.

In the summer of 1923 I went on a 40-day fishing vacation

Hunting scopes of relatively high power require so-called flexible mounts. For mounting the Unertl varmint scope, available in six or eight power, the John Unertl Optical Co. uses mounts which permit ¼-minute of angle adjustment by turning knurled knobs



in northern Maine, and wishing to become more familiar with this type of scope and its adaptability for big-game shooting, I took along three rifles fitted with the following scopes:

4-power Fecker target scope with 20-foot field.
3-power Belding & Mull scope with 36-foot field.
2½-power Zeiss Zielklein scope with 34-foot field.

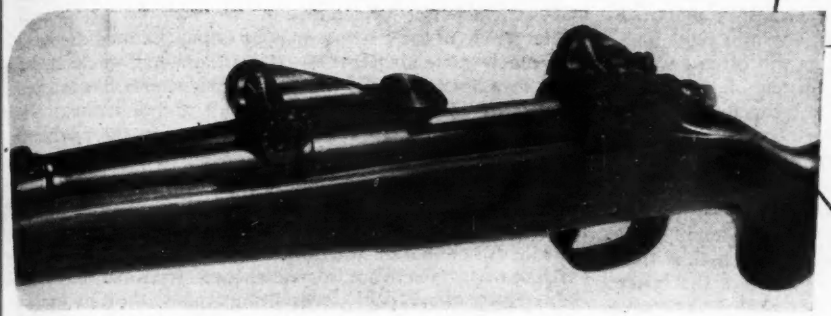
I had unlimited opportunity to try these scopes out by 'still shooting' on deer, grouse, and red squirrels in both fairly open and thickly wooded country, and in various lights. As a result I came to some fairly definite conclusions.

1) No scope is suitable for quick snap shots, or for shooting at running game, unless the field of view is 30 feet or over at 100 yards.

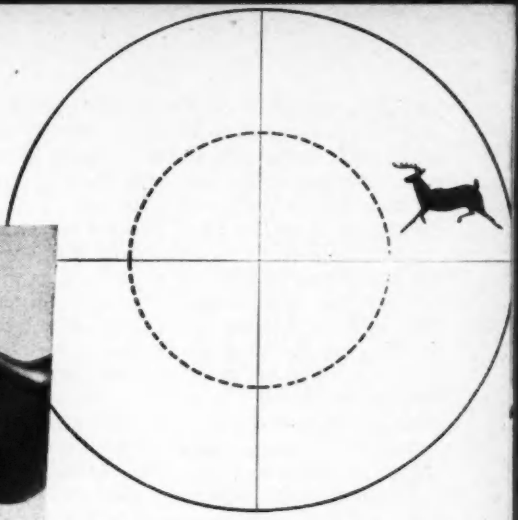
2) This field, or nearly the full field, must be seen whether your eye be 2 inches or 5 inches behind the eyepiece. To shoot well you must assume your normal, steady firing position. Shooting prone or uphill your eye will naturally be held much farther forward than when standing or shooting downhill. You should have the big field in any position.

3) You cannot aim *with any sight* unless the pupil of the

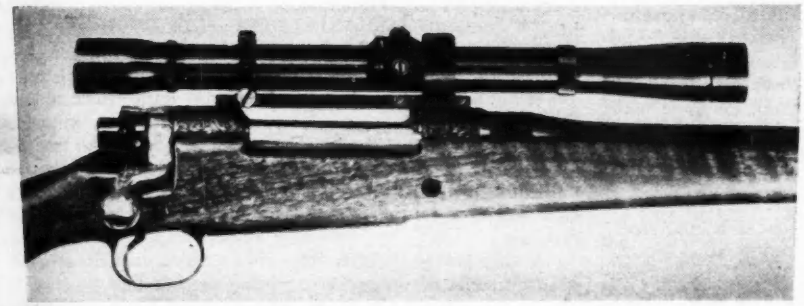
THREE TYPES OF RIGID MOUNTS



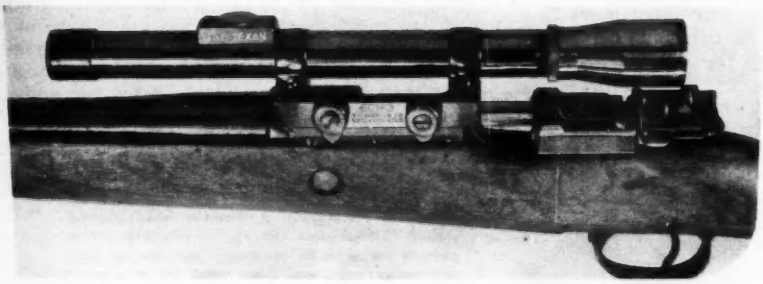
V mounts, like the two-piece Stith Master Mount, fasten fore and aft of receiver opening



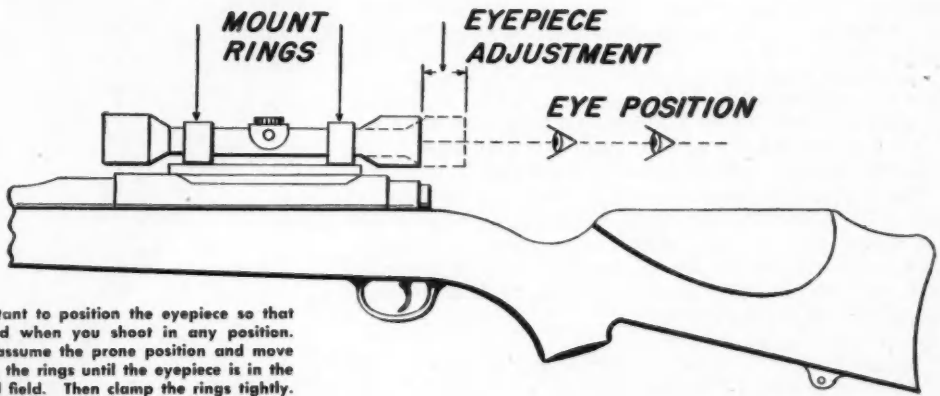
A scope with a field of view of about 30 feet in diameter at 100 yards (shown by solid line) will allow a hunter taking a snap shot to locate his target immediately. If he uses a scope with a 20 foot field (dotted line), target may be outside field.



Bridge mounts fasten fore and aft of receiver opening but are in one piece and extend across it



Side bracket mounts like the Echo permit rapid removal and replacement of the scope



In mounting a scope, it is important to position the eyepiece so that the full field of view is obtained when you shoot in any position. After mount rings are installed, assume the prone position and move the scope back and forth through the rings until the eyepiece is in the position at which you see the full field. Then clamp the rings tightly. The eyepiece will usually be about one inch in rear of end of cocking piece. When shooting standing, eye position may be four inches to rear of eyepiece but you will see nearly all of maximum field

eye is held steadily in the line of aim. You assure this steadiness by pressing your cheek against the side and comb of the stock. Most factory rifle stocks are made with a comb that is correct for iron sights, and if the cheek is pressed firmly and naturally against such a stock the eye will be too low to see through the scope, for on all rifles the scope must be mounted considerably higher above the barrel than the iron sight line. For satisfactory hunting where quick shots will often have to be taken, the scope should be mounted squarely on top of the rifle, with the bottom of the tube almost touching the receiver. Also, the stock should have a high and thick comb, such as is found on the scope stocks now being furnished on Remington Models 721 and 722 rifles, or on a made-to-order stock, or have the comb raised with a laced-on cheek pad.

4) The above paragraph rules out of consideration all scopes mounted so high above the barrel and action that iron sights can be seen under them, and all rifles that eject their cartridges from the top of the receiver so that the scope must be mounted offset to the left of center.

5) In rapid fire, after the action has been operated for the second or subsequent shot and you attempt to resume aim, the rifle is always swinging rapidly from side to side. The experienced rapid-fire shot stops this side swinging almost instantly by squeezing the stock tightly between his cheek and the base of his right thumb. This cannot be done with a stock with too low a comb, or with a high-mounted scope, or with a scope that is offset to the left.

To sum up, the scope must be so located on the rifle, and the rifle stock must be so proportioned, that when you throw your rifle to your shoulder and press your cheek to the stock to aim at a target, your eye should instantly see through the center of the scope, and the game should appear well within the field of view. Also, when you aim in your normal prone position the eyepiece of the scope should be two to three inches in front of your eye. Then when you aim in the standing position your eye will naturally come about four or five inches to the rear of the eyepiece. At either of these distances you should see all or nearly all of the full field of view. Then you merely shift your hold slightly to bring the reticle (crosshair, dot, or post) to a vital spot on the game and squeeze the trigger. There is nothing else to line up. When you get used to it by aiming at things at home, the big-game scope becomes the fastest and easiest of all sights.

It is not necessary to get your eye exactly in line with the center of the scope. Your pupil may line up anywhere within the exit pupil of the scope and you will see the full field and your aim will be accurate. The *exit pupil* is the pencil of light that comes to the rear through the eyepiece. With a hunting scope it is almost always at least a quarter inch in diameter, so your eye may be as much as an eighth of an inch from the center line of the scope and your aim will still be accurate. This means a lot in quickly catching aim. Note that with iron sights your eye must be precisely in the line of aim established by the rear sight, front sight and target—three things to line up exactly.

The following scopes have fields of view of at least 30 feet at 100 yards. This field is satisfactorily large with the eye anywhere between 2 and 5 inches to the rear of the eyepiece. They are therefore suitable when properly mounted for quick aim, snap shooting, shooting at running game, rapid fire, and for general big-game shooting.

Bear Cub 2½ and 4 power.
Lyman Alaskan 2½ power and Challenger 4 power
Bausch & Lomb adjusted to 2½ power
Weaver K2.5 and K4; also KV adjusted to 2½ power
Texan 2½ power
Unertl 2½ and 4 power
Leupold 2½ power

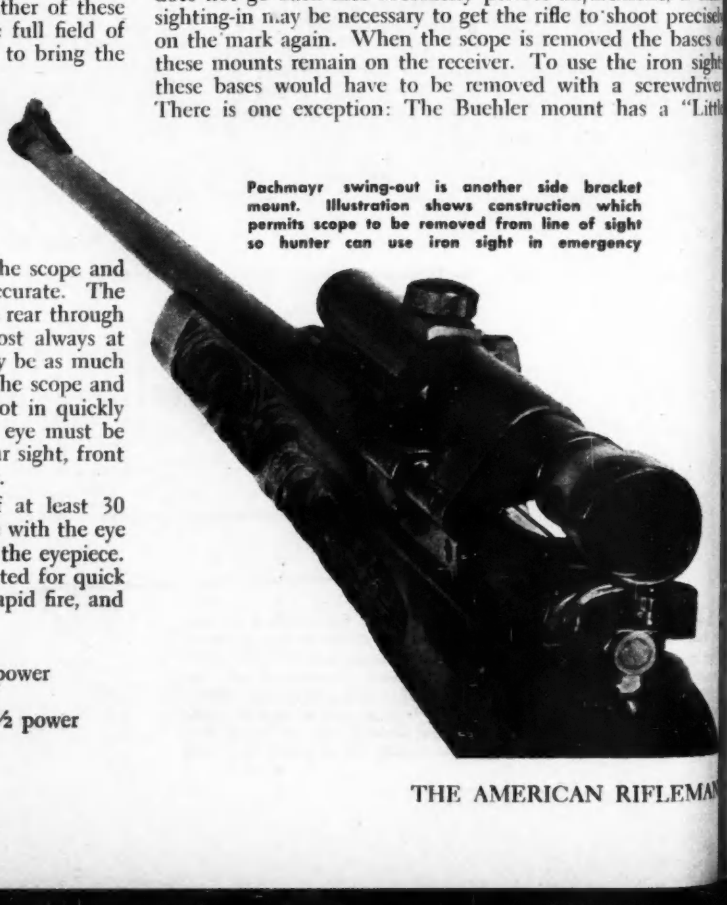
The 4-power scopes are fast gaining in popularity over the 2½ power because they have a wide enough field of view for all quick shooting, and their increased seeing power makes them better for longer ranges.

The reticle in these scopes may be either the medium crosshair which subtends (covers) at least one-half inch at 100 yards, or a dot subtending at least 3 inches, or a flat top post the top of which subtends between 5 and 7 inches. The latter is advised for thick woods and for use in the far North where the light is dim in the Fall hunting season. Avoid very fine crosshairs (good for target shooting only), and the pointed post, which is good for nothing. For varmints at long range the crosshairs are best because it is easier to hold over with them to allow for the drop of the bullet.

Mountings: There are in general three types of rigid (non-sliding) mounts available for hunting scopes: the side bracket mounts (Griffin & Howe, Pachmayr, Echo, new Weaver, and Mykrom); the top-bridge type mounts (Redfield Junior, Buehler, Williams, Tilden, new Weaver, and Stith); and the top "V" mounts (Stith Master, Bausch & Lomb, and King Pike). All of these are generally satisfactory, but one type may be much better suited to your needs than the others.

The bracket types are best when you wish to be able to take your scope off the rifle and replace it instantly in perfect adjustment. When the scope is removed you can use the iron sights on the rifle with no interference. These bracket mounts are slightly more expensive than the others, particularly because it takes a good gunsmith to mount them properly.

The top bridge mounts are less expensive, and many of the more modern rifles have screw holes provided in the receiver so you can mount the scope with nothing but a screwdriver. They have arrangements by which the scope can be removed from the rifle in a few seconds, but often when replaced it does not go back into absolutely perfect adjustment; a little sighting-in may be necessary to get the rifle to shoot precisely on the mark again. When the scope is removed the bases of these mounts remain on the receiver. To use the iron sights these bases would have to be removed with a screwdriver. There is one exception: The Buehler mount has a "Little



Pachmayr swing-out is another side bracket mount. Illustration shows construction which permits scope to be removed from line of sight so hunter can use iron sight in emergency

Blue Peep" sight that can be clamped on the mount base when the scope is removed.

The top "V" mounts permit quick removal of the scope from the rifle and replacement in perfect adjustment. Also the Stith Master and Bausch & Lomb makes have the "V's" adjustable for elevation and windage with graduated scales so that the mounts themselves can be used to adjust the scope with precision. A scope without reticle adjustment (Bear Cub or Bausch & Lomb) can therefore be used. By sighting one scope in with the mount, and another with its reticle adjustment, two scopes can be made to interchange perfectly on the same rifle. Iron sights cannot be used when the scope is removed, except that the Stith Master Mount has a peep sight incorporated in it that can be turned up and used when the scope is removed.

It sometimes happens that a certain combination of rifle, scope, and mount cannot be made to fit together properly so as to position the scope correctly on the rifle. Particularly you may not be able to adjust the eyepiece to the correct distance in front of your eye. Thus, except for the shooter who 'crawls' forward on the stock, the combination of Lyman Alaskan scope and Redfield Junior mount is not satisfactory on most bolt-action rifles because the scope cannot be mounted far enough to the rear. There are a few similar instances with other combinations. Mounts which have to be attached to the bridge of the receiver are not suitable for Krag and Mannlicher rifles which have no bridge. It is best to consult a competent gunsmith or write the Dope Bag of the RIFLEMAN if you are not certain as to the suitability of certain combinations. Gun store salesmen seldom know much about scopes.

Rimfire hunting rifles: For small-game shooting and general plinking the .22 long rifle cartridge is effective only to about 100 yards. The best scope for such a rifle is a 2½- or 4-power big-game scope mounted as described above. The seeing power of these low magnifications is ample up to 100 yards, and you will probably use the little rifle for much snap-shooting. A very suitable inexpensive scope for a rimfire hunting rifle is the Weaver J2.5, with the new Weaver top or side detachable mounts.

Long-range varmint rifles: To realize the long-range capabilities of the flat-shooting and accurate .220 Swift, Varminter, Wasp, or .222 Remington, you need the seeing power and sure aim that is obtained only with scopes of higher magnification and large object lenses. In the East, where almost all shots are at stationary game and you have plenty of time, probably the best scopes are the 8- and 10-power target scopes made by Fecker, Litschert, Lyman and Unertl. The 8- and 10-power Unertl Varminter scopes with shorter tubes are also particularly fine. I would recommend the double micrometer mount for the Unertl Varminter in place of the usual 'de-horned' mounts. This scope must also be mounted across the receiver of bolt-action rifles with the rear base on the bridge and the front base on the barrel, and with exactly 7.2 inches between centers of the bases so that each click will be a quarter-minute of angle. This absolutely positive quarter-minute adjustment is a great advantage when you wish to insure your bullet striking right on the nose at long ranges.

For the West, where you may be shooting at running jackrabbits and coyotes, you need a scope with wider field than the usual 8 and 10 powers. Also, the sliding mounts of the target scopes are a disadvantage. For such shooting the best is probably the new Bear Cub 6-power scope, which has a wonderfully wide and bright field and lots of seeing power. Also the Weaver K6 is very good. Both should be mounted as recommended for hunting scopes.

Sighting-in the scope: You will rarely find a gunsmith who will mount and sight-in a scope for you so that the bullets from a certain cartridge will strike on point of aim at the desired distance, other than at a prohibitive cost. All the average gunsmith can and should do is to mount the scope by bore sighting. Then you can take the rifle to the range and set up a big target at 10 yards (where your bullets will surely strike on the target), and by shooting on that target adjust your scope until your bullets strike the point of aim. Then set the target back to 100 yards, at which distance your bullets will almost certainly strike somewhere on the large target. Then you can make the precise adjustment that will cause the bullets to strike the point of aim, or a little above the point of aim if you so desire. The easiest and most certain way to sight-in with the least expenditure of ammunition is from a bench rest, with forearm and stock resting on sandbags.

Generally speaking, it is best to sight in a high-power varmint rifle to strike one inch above point of aim at 100 yards, and a big-game rifle to strike two inches high at that distance, because such sight adjustment best takes advantage of the trajectory of the cartridges used in such rifles.

There is one advantage of the scope over iron sights that is seldom mentioned. With iron sights no one can sight in a rifle correctly for you except by mere chance, because no two individuals aim the same with such sights. But through a scope the aim is almost precisely the same. Thus a friend who is an experienced rifleman can sight in a scope for you with the assurance that it will be quite satisfactory for you so long as you use the same make and type of ammunition.

What a scope does is to enable you to aim with much less error than you can with iron hunting sights, so that you can hit small objects at a much greater distance—almost double the distance you can with iron sights, provided you know the trajectory and allow for the drop of the bullet. For example, with a scope on a .30-'06 rifle sighted to strike on aim at 200 yards with the 180-grain cartridge, bullets will average 2 inches above aim at 100 yards, and will drop 9 and 24 inches below aim at 300 and 400 yards respectively. You need made no allowance for distances up to 250 yards, which includes ninety percent of all the shots you get at deer even in open Western country. If you think the distance is over 250 yards, hold just even with the backbone of the animal, above the heart area. If you aim and hold and squeeze, you get your deer—and what a clear aim a good scope gives you, and how easy it is to hold over!

A good scope also permits you to get clear, positive aim under conditions of dim light, interfering brush and contrasting background when you could not see to aim with iron sights at all. And, of course, it almost entirely prevents your mistaking a human being for game, or a doe for a buck.

To summarize, select the particular rifle and scope best suited for the particular kind of hunting you are going to do. Have the scope mounted so as to fit you in your normal firing positions, and also modify the stock if that is necessary. Only thus will you get real satisfaction from the combination of rifle and scope.

At home practice aiming every day in various firing positions until you are thoroughly used to your outfit, and can catch aim quickly and hold steadily. Thoroughly familiarize yourself with the instructions that come with the scope.

Sight your rifle and scope so that the bullets strike on point of aim at the distance which best takes advantage of the trajectory. Once you have the correct adjustment, leave the scope alone unless at some time a change is clearly indicated.

Take care of your scope. It and its mount are strong, but like binoculars they won't stand hard abuse. Keep the lenses clean by blowing on them, then breathing on them, and then polishing with a soft handkerchief. Never touch a lens with your fingers. Have metal or leather lens covers, and keep them on the scope except when you are actually hunting. Study your marksmanship manual, and practice every chance you get. ◆ ◆ ◆

BY STEPHEN V. GRANCSAY
Curator, Armor and Arms
Metropolitan Museum of Art

Some of the most graphic "eyewitness" accounts of the struggle for American independence are engraved on Colonial powder horns.

Powder horn engraved with a view of Philadelphia. Owned by Dr. James A. Cowan, Jr., Pittsburgh

HORNS HAVE BEEN treasured as heirlooms from ancient times. In England, for example, the Pusey Estates have been held by "the tenure of the horn" from the time of King Canute early in the eleventh century. For saving his life, so the story goes, the king gave a grant of property to one of his officers and his heirs, to hold by the tenure of the horn, which has accordingly been preserved carefully ever since. Tenure "by cornage" as it is called, imposed upon the tenant the duty of sounding a horn to warn of the approach of the king's enemies.

In much the same way, powder horns like the one illustrated on the cover have been handed down as heirlooms from generation to generation because of patriotic association. They are especially esteemed when they bear their own engraved history. Such engraved "pedigrees" include maps, sketches of forts and towns, scenes of battle on land and sea, and animals and birds that inhabited the localities represented on the maps. Inscriptions are a prominent feature, including the names of owners, dates, place names, rhymes and, occasionally, even a diary.

At the time of the early French wars (1755-1763), horns professionally engraved with maps upon them of the territory between New York and Canada were made in England for presentation to officers detailed for duty in America. Many such horns must still be in England, some never having been brought to America, others having been used here and taken back to England by their original owners. Finely engraved horns of this sort with a map of the province of New York are in the Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge, England, in Windsor Castle, and in the Armouries of The Tower of London. In 1927 a London book dealer listed in his catalogue two early American powder horns. One was inscribed "CAPT. CHAS RICHARDES of

Powder Horns and American History

95th Regt. Fort Nin," and with the names of numerous places including North Carolina. The other was engraved with a view of CHARLESTOWN and a diagram of the 'Tannasse' River with many of the towns indicated.

Three powder horns from Eglinton Castle in Ayreshire, Scotland, now in the possession of Herman P. Dean of Huntington, West Virginia, bear the British royal arms and the arms of the earls of Eglinton. All three are engraved with the Hudson and Mohawk river routes to Lakes Champlain and Ontario; two of them are dated 1760. Their original owner, Lieutenant General Archibald Montgomerie, afterwards eleventh Earl of Eglinton, served with the British Army in America during the French and Indian Wars.

Two hundred years ago France and England were still fighting out their long battle for the fur trade and also for the richest part of the North American continent. New York State was the theatre of the century-long conflict between the British and French empires. This period proved to be a map-making era, because much of the region that was being fought over had not previously been charted.

To motorists on the New York State highways following the Hudson and Mohawk rivers, or along Lakes George, Champlain, and Ontario, familiar sights are the many sign-posts commemorative of forts and battles associated with early Colonial times and with the American Revolution. These sections of the state are replete with historical interest. The same routes, with the names of the same fortified places, are engraved on the map horns which were in common use during the French and Indian War. The Hudson and Mohawk valleys were of great military importance in the middle of the eighteenth century, and the two rivers were the high roads. Transportation along these waterways was infinitely better than transport by land. Lying between the Catskills and the Adirondacks, the Mohawk Valley runs for ninety-five miles from Schenectady to Fort Stanwix (Rome). From Albany a wagon road led to Schenectady sixteen miles distant, whence boats moved up the Mohawk river as far as Fort Stanwix, which protected the carrying place between the Mohawk and Wood Creek, a small stream which empties into Oneida Lake.

As a rule, starting with a view of New York and the compass pointing to the north at the base of the horn, the engraving would run towards the tip or small end, showing the different routes, towns, forts, villages, supply stations, rivers and lakes. Many maps begin with the city of New York, showing its churches, prominent buildings, the British fort, a windmill, and its

French and Indian War powder horns from Eglinton Castle, Ayreshire, Scotland. Originally owned by the Earl of Eglinton, they are engraved with the Hudson and Mohawk River routes to Lakes Champlain and Ontario. This unique set of powder horns is now owned by Herman P. Dean, Huntington, W. Va.

This fine map horn is owned by Curtis Reider of Fulton, New York. Note the marks indicating the military road between Fort Edward and Fort George and the 'carry' then in use between Fort Edward and Wood Creek

harbor and shipping. Albany is pictured surrounded by a stockade, and crowned by a fort on a hill, with its church steeples topped by the conventional weathercock. Then comes Schenectady, and the numerous forts and military posts. Such maps include the Hudson and Mohawk river regions, the country and the lakes in New York, and sometimes the intervening sections of Canada to Montreal and Quebec.

The Hudson-Champlain route shown on these horns was another of the chief strategic highways of the continent, the course from New York to Canada. The upper waters of the Hudson almost mingled with those of Lake George. A short carry from Lake George took them to Lake Champlain, and then the going was easy clear to the valley of the St. Lawrence. Up and down these waterways first the Iroquois and Algonquins struggled for mastery; then the French and their Indian allies against the English; again the English and the Americans when the latter fought for their freedom; and during the War of 1812 the threat of the British invasion was halted by Macdonough's destruction of the British fleet on Lake Champlain.

The horn which is illustrated on the cover of this issue is inscribed: "Samuel Campton His Horn February the 26 1764." It is engraved with the British royal arms and a map representing the Hudson and Mohawk river valleys. The Mohawk river route to the West is guarded by Skanacody (Schenectady), Fort Johnston, Ft. Harkmar, and Ft. Stanex (Ft. Stanwix). The Oneida portage path, with the exception of Niagara, was the most important west of the Hudson River. Then on by water to Ft. Bruonton, the 3 Rivers and Niagara. Fort Niagara was built by the French in 1726 to prevent control of this "gateway to the West" by the English. Also represented are Prouques (Fort Presqu'Isle, now Erie, Pennsylvania, on Lake Erie), Sant Tusky (Sandusky, Ohio), Detroyit and Lake Uron. Such a horn belongs to a period before the days of the Erie Canal when one traveled by wagon endlessly into unopened land.

The French settlements, developing from fur-trading posts, extended from the mouth of the St. Lawrence River up its course to the Great Lakes, with branches reaching southward to Lake Champlain; along the Great Lakes; and to the southward along the Mississippi River to St. Louis and New Orleans. France had aimed at holding the three great gulfs (Hudson's Bay, St. Lawrence, Mexico), the four great rivers (St. Lawrence, Mohawk-Hudson, Ohio, Mississippi) and the five great lakes. They sought by every means possible to turn the Indian from the English and bind him to themselves. In 1609, Samuel de Champlain, a Frenchman, explored southward along the valley of the lake later named for him, and Henry Hudson, an Englishman in Dutch employ, sailed northward up the river later to bear his name. These two expeditions, occurring within two months of each other and penetrating to points only about 100 miles apart, prefigured a century and a half of struggle for control of a North American empire. In 1609 the Huron Indians succeeded in obtaining the help of Samuel de Champlain in a war party against the Mohawks, one of the Five Nations of Iroquois Indians. The French explorer supplied the first firearms to be used in Indian warfare, and at the engagement near the present Ticonderoga the bewildered Mohawks fled in panic. They found in the Dutch, and later in the English, their natural allies against the French. These rival colonists provided them with firearms in their turn, and the continuing enmity of the warlike Iroquois was an important cause of the downfall of the French colonial empire in the New World. After Montcalm captured Fort William Henry and hostile Indians made successful raids on the English frontier in 1757, it required all of Sir William Johnson's influence to keep the Iroquois from going over to the French. In a Council at Detroit in 1761, Johnson persuaded thirteen Indian tribes formerly allied with the French to sign a treaty with Britain.

The year 1758, with William Pitt in power, proved the turning point in British affairs in North America. In 1758, when the British captured Louis-

burg (July 26), Frontenac on Lake Ontario (August 27), and Duquesne (November 26), Fort Niagara became the last of the French outposts. When it surrendered to the British on July 24, 1759, control of the lakes passed from French hands.

In 1759, while Wolfe was taking Quebec, Amherst compelled the French to abandon Ticonderoga (July 26) and Crown Point fell to his hands (July 31), while Johnson captured Niagara (July 25) and reoccupied Oswego. In 1760 Amherst took La Galette, now Ogdensburg, and at Montreal accepted the surrender of all Canada to the British.

The maps on powder horns of this period cover a wide geographical area. The New York and Canada horns are more common than other types since the province of New York was the principal theatre of conflict. Maps on New England horns represent the Connecticut river valley from the Massachusetts line to Long Island Sound; the route from Portland, Maine, through northern New Hampshire to the Connecticut River; a map of Providence and sketch of Rhode Island; and a map of Boston in which the fortifications across the neck are represented.

There are powder horns which are engraved with a map of the settlements of the Cherokees in the Province of South Carolina. The Cherokees attached themselves to the English in the disputes which arose between the European colonizers, formally recognized the English king in 1730 and in 1755 ceded a part of their territory and permitted the creation of English forts, some of which are represented on these horns. Unfortunately, this amity was interrupted not long after; Lieutenant General Montgomerie, later the Earl of Eglinton, raised a fine regiment of thirteen companies of Highlanders, which became known as the 77th Foot, and in 1757 took his regiment to America where it took part in much fighting against the Indians, especially the Cherokees whom he defeated in 1761. The three Eglinton powder horns in the Dean collection, previously mentioned, were apparently used in this campaign.

Pennsylvania map horns represent the city of Philadelphia, and some of them show the road cut through the wilderness of the Cumberland Valley by Brigadier General John Forbes in 1758, when he set out to capture Fort Duquesne from the French. Fort Pitt (now Pittsburgh), which was built in 1759 on the site of Fort Duquesne, where the Monongahela joins the Allegheny, commanded the entrance to the Ohio Valley, and from Pontiac's War to the close of the Revolution (1763-1781) it witnessed a continued struggle between the Indians and the sparsely scattered colonists. During the weary years of the Revolution Fort Pitt had to reckon with the British as well as the Indians, whose periods of friendliness were never long-lived.

The extent of British activities in America is suggested by horns which represent St. Augustine, the oldest town in the United States (founded by the Spaniards in 1565). They were used in the service of the army of occupation in Florida (1762) and are engraved with the British arms, a general view of the town with its red roofs standing out conspicuously, the fort with the British flag flying triumphantly, and sailboats which give color and action to the picture. There is another type of horn engraved with a map showing the harbors of Havana and 'Matansia' (Matanzas) on the northwest coast of the island of Cuba, with the names and bird's-eye views of the two towns and of the several forts protecting them. These two types of powder horns are of especial historical interest. When in the course of the Seven Years' War, Spain made an alliance with France, England declared war on Spain and sent an expedition against Havana. This expedition was the last in which Americans served overseas under the British flag. By the peace of Paris in 1763 Spain ceded Florida to the British in exchange for Cuba.

Powder horn engraved with a view of Quebec. Owned by Dr. James A. Cowan, Jr., Pittsburgh

Horns were not used exclusively with firearms. Miners and quarrymen carried explosives in them. Pioneers kept salt in them, to prevent its hardening or caking. Horns also served as canteens for water or rum. Bugle horns, many of them engraved like powder horns, and mowers' horns (cows' horns in which were carried whetstones and vinegar for sharpening scythes) were also in common use. Sir Walter Scott had a border war-horn which his servant used — without permission — as a grease-horn for his scythe! Horns were used for carrying grease for slushing down the rigging of ships. Cow horns were sometimes used for making a light —flint, steel and tinder being conveniently kept in them. Mr. Gerald Fox has three such horns which are engraved with names and dates, and which have been burnt from use. Such horns are souvenirs of early American history, but they do not possess the element of human interest which attaches itself to engraved powder horns, which accounts largely for the fascination of collecting them. They keep history alive. For example, after the Treaty of Paris in 1763 it was necessary for the British to garrison an extensive line of forts—the forts represented on these powder horns. Grenville, Chancellor of the Exchequer, in 1765 thought that the thirteen colonies should share the costs of this defense. So he proposed to levy a stamp tax, which led to the first symptoms of alienation between America and the mother country. These powder horns belong to a time like the present when every man was liable to a call for military service. They continued in use through the Mexican War of 1847 when Samuel Colt launched the struggle to replace slow-loading firearms with arms using ready-made paper cartridges. Their eventual success completed the displacement of the powder horn as an accessory of every armed man. ♦ ♦ ♦

Problems of Gun Assembly

Condensed from a chapter of the book "Gunsmithing Simplified" by Harold E. MacFarland, published recently by Combat Forces Press (see page 78)

THE AMATEUR IS OFTEN puzzled by the problem of getting his gun apart; and even more perplexed when he tries to find a place for all the pieces and put it together again. I have lots of guns brought to the shop in a grain sack or a shoe box because a bewildered owner discovered there were too many pieces for him. The ones I feel sorry for are those who suddenly release the tension on a spring and allow pieces to fly all over the landscape. They don't know what came out or where it came from. It isn't only the amateurs who get into trouble, either. I've seen professionals who had to get the assistance of an older hand before they could assemble some of the guns less frequently encountered. I've seen others who would drop a receiver assembly into the bluing tank because they couldn't, or didn't dare try, to get it apart.

I've always believed that what another man has put together I could tear asunder, and *vice versa*. Guns are just an interesting mechanical puzzle and many are better than any Sam Lloyd ever devised. Most are built on sound engineering principles. This doesn't apply to some of our recent cheap wire-spring and sheet-metal specials. My personal opinion of these is that the designers were prenatally scared by an air rifle.

Study the gun over logically before attempting to take it apart. Note the position and motion of every working part that can be seen. Every part is put in there for a definite purpose, and the functional design must be studied and remembered or you are not apt to get the contraption together again if you do get it apart. There is nothing magic about it. It is just a case of the designer making use of a lot of mechanical tricks; and these weren't used to make business for the professional gunsmith. They are a part of the scheme to make your gun a more dependable weapon. Screws are a weak link in gun construction. They break. They rust in place; and they vibrate loose. Wherever possible, the good designer avoids them. Pins have a habit of working out. When a designer is compelled to use them, he tries to cover the ends with other parts. For this reason, designers make use of interlocking parts which keep each other in place. Gun manufacturers could build guns much more cheaply if they used side plates and inspection plates, and put everything together with screws or bolts like an automobile engine; but that gun would lack the trim, streamlined appearance you are accustomed to, and you would have endless trouble with it. Working tolerances are small in a gun. Screws would work loose and the weapon would jam at critical moments. Locking bolts could fail to function or headspace become dangerously excessive through a slight misalignment of parts.

To take down CZ 27 pistol, pull down small knurled button at top of left grip and push it through from right side of frame

German designers in particular have gone to great lengths to avoid screws. The only screw in many German pistols is in the grip. The designer of the Ortgies pistol has gone to even greater lengths. Even the wood grips on this gun are held in place by a trick locking device, and there isn't a screw in the entire gun.

The rank amateur will usually start on his gun with a screw driver and proceed to remove every visible screw. Remove *no* screws until you can figure a reason for doing so. You may release inside parts that are under spring tension. They may shift and lock the action until even a gunsmith cannot get it apart without breaking something. If nothing worse happens, the entire assembly may disintegrate like the one-hoss shay when the final screw is removed, and you will suddenly have so many parts you won't know what to do with them.

If you are dealing with a modern gun for which a parts catalog is available, a careful study of the pictures of the repair parts will often prove advantageous. You will be able to determine if a particular part is screwed into place, cross-pinned, or interlocked. By the size and shape of a part you may be able to tell which way it must come out of the receiver.

Reassembling an old gun is usually much easier than a new one. The various parts have bright spots worn where they have been bearing against other working parts. A typical example of this is the model '81 Remington autoloading rifle. This rifle has a series of parts merely dropped on pins on the inside of one receiver wall. With the gun entirely assembled, every-

thing is locked in place; but during assembly it is easy to get these parts in the wrong position, or to place them wrong side up. By taking careful note of the worn, bright spots, and assembling so that each has a bearing that could make such a spot, you will have little difficulty.

It isn't possible to take the embryonic gunsmith step by step through all the guns he is going to encounter. There will always be new ones, freakish foreign stuff, and obsolete specimens no one would think of listing. The mechanic who must depend on charts will never be a gunsmith. My idea here is to present a representative cross-section of most of the mechanical *tricks* he is apt to encounter. Most guns will fall somewhere in this cross-section. For the mechanically minded, it is only necessary to dope out the interlocking puzzle; the rest is easy. As in a carpenter's knot, once the key stick is removed, the rest falls apart.

Beware of the coil spring commonly found in double-barreled shotguns. If suddenly released it can knock out an eye or scatter parts all over the shop. Many of these must be assembled in the gun with the aid of a special tool.

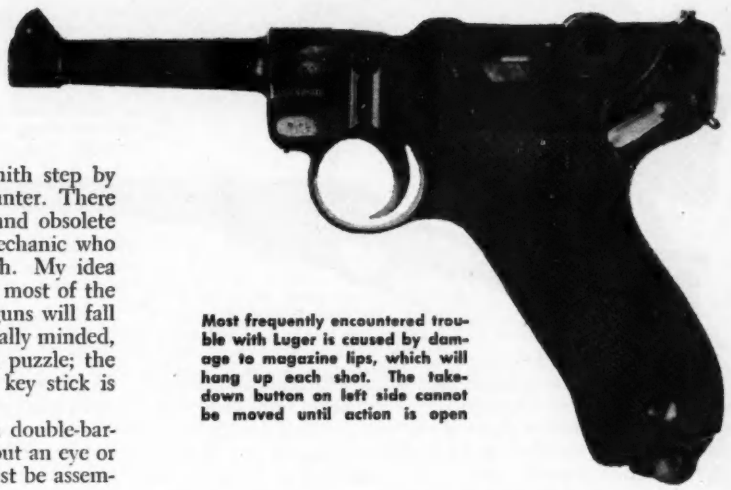
Some, as in the case of the model 215 Stevens, are designed for simple easy assembly if the proper technique is used; but it is nearly impossible if a simple assembly trick is overlooked. In this gun, the mainspring assembly is a three-piece unit. The mainspring plunger is made with a notched head. A helical spring is compressed on the plunger, between this notched head and a sleeve which is also notched. It is a simple matter to make up a bow-shaped piece of steel with a hook on either end, Figure 1. This bow is engaged in the notches on plunger and sleeve while the spring is under full compression. Then, when the sear is tripped, the unit may be lifted out of the gun.

Iver Johnson shotguns have a hole drilled through one end of the mainspring guide pin. Compress the spring by cocking the hammer, drop a pin through the hole, release the tension of the spring against the pin by tripping the trigger, and the assembly may be lifted out as a unit. Other guns are similarly constructed but lack the pin-assembly hole. In this case, drill a pinhole in the guide pin. To compress the spring on it, merely drop the spring in place, insert the holding pin in its hole, grip the spring with a pair of pliers, and twist it around and around until it is all compressed behind the holding pin, Figure 2.

The tale about the village moron is trite but still applicable. It seems that this chap of questionable intelligence had found a lost horse when all but he had failed. When questioned as to how he had done it, he explained that he just put himself in the horse's place, and went where he would have gone had he been a horse. The horse was there.

When I encounter a strange gun that appears difficult to tear down, I try to study out the mental quirks of the designer and to put myself in his place. With a given set of circumstances, and a given result to achieve, I try to figure the mechanical solution I would have used in his place. Quite often, that is the right one. When a problem is bounded by the mechanical limitations you have clearly visible before you, there are only a limited number of solutions possible.

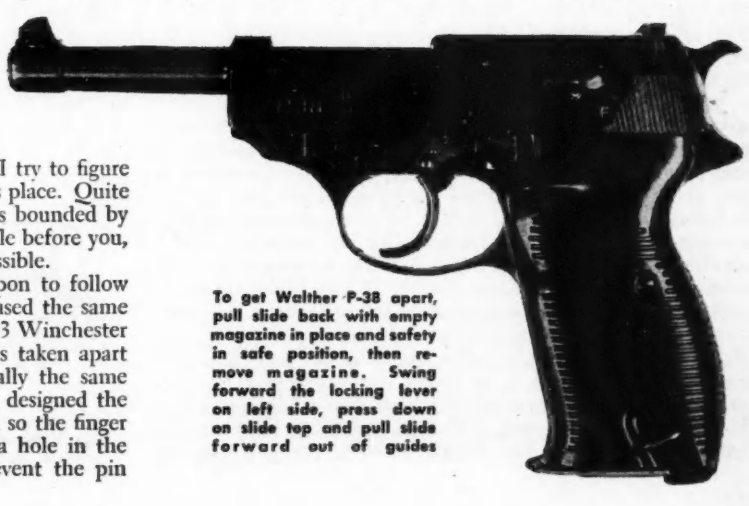
Any given gun designer may be depended upon to follow a definite mechanical pattern. John Browning used the same tricks of assembly over and over again. The old '73 Winchester had a very simple toggle-locking action and was taken apart by removing a side plate. The '76 was practically the same thing but built larger all over. When Browning designed the '86, he used a solid receiver for greater strength, so the finger lever was pinned to the breech block through a hole in the upper, forward portion of the receiver. To prevent the pin from working out and jamming the gun, the hole was blanked off by being made small on one end, and closed with a screw on the opposite side. The trick to taking apart the model '86 is to close the breech block, remove the screw from the left side of the receiver, upper forward portion, and drive out the pin from the right side. The breech block will then come out. Browning used the same idea on the '92, the '94, and the '95. When he came to designing the Remington autoloading shotgun, he gave the same idea a slightly different twist. The breech block was pinned together through a similar hole, but it was pinned while the block was partially opened. Thus the block was never stopped at this point, and there was no risk of the pin working out. Therefore there was no screw put in the hole. In taking these apart, it is necessary to move the breech block rearward until the assembly pin is opposite the hole, and then drive out the pin from the right side.



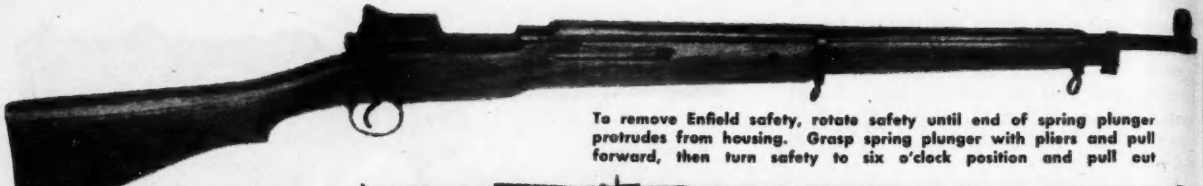
Most frequently encountered trouble with Luger is caused by damage to magazine lips, which will hang up each shot. The takedown button on left side cannot be moved until action is open

German rifle and shotgun designers may be depended upon to follow a simple logical pattern. They use sound engineering principles, and often, as in their three- and four-barrel guns, achieve a complicated result with a comparatively simple action. No particular problem is involved in getting them apart except on the '88 Mauser bolt assembly. On this, push the safety forward and hold it while the cocking head is unscrewed.

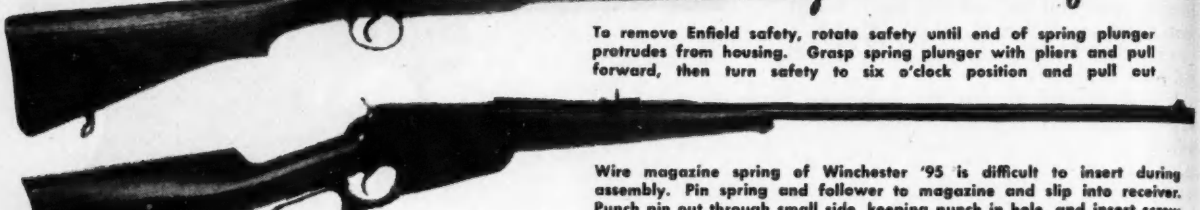
When it comes to German pistols, it is a different story. Here, the designer has given free rein to his imagination and may be likened to the hero in the Western thriller who



To get Walther P-38 apart, pull slide back with empty magazine in place and safety in safe position, then remove magazine. Swing forward the locking lever on left side, press down on slide top and pull slide forward out of guides



To remove Enfield safety, rotate safety until end of spring plunger protrudes from housing. Grasp spring plunger with pliers and pull forward, then turn safety to six o'clock position and pull out



Wire magazine spring of Winchester '95 is difficult to insert during assembly. Pin spring and follower to magazine and slip into receiver. Punch pin out through small side, keeping punch in hole, and insert screw

mounted his horse and galloped off in all directions amid a cloud of dust. One German automatic pistol refused to come apart until the front sight stud was grasped and slid backward; after which it readily came to pieces. The smaller Walther pistols require the rear end of the trigger guard to be sprung out of a notch in the frame and swung forward. The wood grips of the Ortgies are dogged into place by a spring catch. It may be tripped by removing the magazine and reaching up in the magazine well, just inside the back strap of the grip, with a screw driver or other small tool. The action slide comes off the Ortgies when the gun is grasped by the grip without compressing the grip safety, the button on the left side of the frame immediately beneath the rear portion of the slide is depressed, and the slide pulled to the rear and upward.

Luger. Here is a most excellent gun. Finer still are a few old model Lugers which one sees occasionally. Some of these are branded with the American eagle, and were sent over here for trial by our army before the Colt .45 automatic was officially adopted. They are made with the precision of a watch and are beautiful things. The grip and balance suit my hand perfectly and they handle more like a fine free pistol. The Germans simplified the design when they were getting ready for World War I and brought out the new model because it was easier to manufacture. A fact not generally known is that the Luger is actually the product of an American designer who, unable to get his gun produced in this country, took it to Germany, where it was manufactured. It is a revised version of the old Borchardt which was produced in this country.

Jamming in a Luger usually comes from one of two causes. Slight damage to the magazine lips will hang it up every shot. The other cause is weak ammunition. American ammunition is loaded lighter than the German. It is often necessary to cut two or three turns from the recoil spring before the Luger action will work full cycle with American cartridges. The takedown on the Luger is so simple it is obvious. The only trick is that the takedown button on the left side cannot be moved until the action is open.

Walther P38. This one is a complete and unmitigated louse. It is one of the wire-spring and sheet-metal wonders, and was adopted by the Germans only because they could stamp it out in quantity production. This is a complicated gun and you will have lots of pieces when you tear it up. It has one unique feature. It may be fired double-action like a revolver for the first shot when the hammer is down. It has another feature that causes me to prefer to be somewhere else when one of these guns is around. When the hammer is cocked and the safety is moved to safe, the hammer snaps down. There is a locking device on the firing pin that is supposed to lock it securely before the hammer gets there. It usually functions, but it is always disconcerting. This gun may easily be, and frequently has been, booby-trapped. There is a small swinging wedge of steel operating between the barrel extension and the frame. It locks the gun shut at the instant of firing. This pistol may be assembled without this lock, and the only difference it makes in functioning is that the slide comes back too fast for safety.

To get this gun apart, pull the slide back, with the magazine in place but empty, and the safety catch in the safe position. Then remove the magazine. This will leave the slide locked open. At the front end of the frame, left side, is a small locking lever. Swing this forward. Hold the slide under control while you press down on the slide stop. Then press the trigger and pull the slide forward out of its guides. Once the slide is off the gun, it is a simple matter to remove the barrel from the slide. The locking parts are visible and the method will be apparent. The top of the operating slide has a sheet-metal cover. Hook a screw driver beneath the front end of this and pull it forward and upward. It will pop out of place and expose the firing pin and firing-pin lock assembly. Assembling this gun is tricky and must be done exactly or it won't go together. Just reverse the takedown procedure step by step and it will prove comparatively simple.

Beretta Pistols. A large number of these were brought back by soldiers from the Italian front. They use the Colt .380 automatic pistol cartridge. They are simple, sturdy, smoothly and precisely machined and, for an Italian weapon, unusually well made. My only gripe against them is the same one I have against any small pocket pistol. They aren't suited to target shooting. They aren't accurate enough or powerful enough for game shooting. And if I were ever to entertain the notion of shooting men, it wouldn't be with a caliber .380. It might get them riled. To get this gun apart, remove the magazine and pull the slide back as far as it will go, locking it with the safety catch. Bump the muzzle of the barrel with the palm of your hand and it will come out. Release the safety catch and the slide will now come off.

Savage Pistols. These are now obsolete, but will be showing up in repair shops for years to come. Pull the slide full back, with your thumb and forefinger grasp the hammer and the portion of the slide extension that the hammer operates in. Press the hammer as tightly down as it will go and revolve it a quarter turn and pull it out. The slide will then come off the gun.

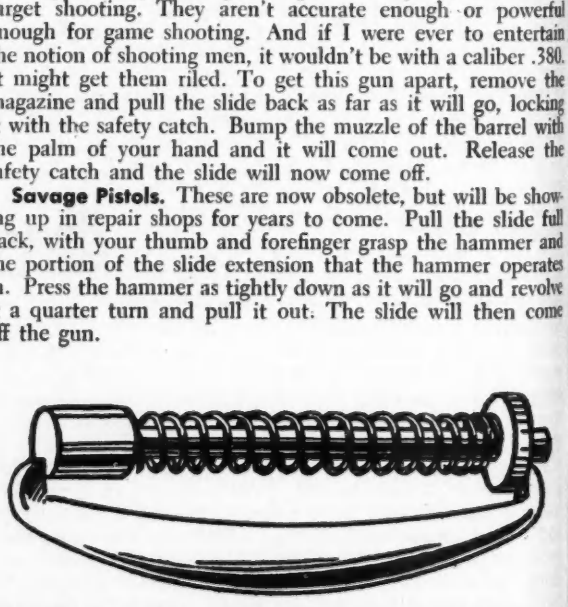


Fig. 1: Small metal bow to hold mainspring compressed between plunger and sleeve will simplify disassembly of Stevens 215

Colt Automatics. Complete information on the Colt .45 automatic is so readily available that there could be little object in including it here. The smaller pocket pistols all have similar takedowns. Pull the slide back approximately ¾ inch. No definite point can be given, but it may be easily determined by feel. Revolve the barrel a quarter turn and the slide will come off. The system is different on the Woodsman. On this gun, the recoil spring must first be locked into its compressed position. A small knurled button will be noted on top of the slide. Pull the slide back, press this button in tightly and hold it while the slide is released. While still holding the button, pull the trigger to relieve mainspring tension. On the older Woodsman, all that is necessary is to push upward on the inside curve of the mainspring housing which serves as a back strap for the grip. It will pop out and release the slide. On the postwar Woodsman, much the same procedure is followed except that the mainspring housing is pinned in at one point. Note a loose-fitting pin which cross-pins the housing to the frame. Push it out with a nail or match, and proceed as before.

.45 Colt takes down by pressing in checked button beneath muzzle and turning barrel bushing to release spring tension. (Don't let spring fly out.) Position the cut in left side of slide over the projection on slide stop thumbpiece and remove stop

Hi Standard Automatics. These guns, as with the Colt Woodsman, positively must have the recoil spring dogged into its fully compressed position before removing the slide. Many of these guns have the recoil spring buckled and the gun is put out of commission by failing to note this. The spring is compressed into place and locked as on the Woodsman. The recoil spring is put into the Hi Standard slide through a hole drilled in the front end. It is held by a simple plug, which is cross-pinned in place. With the recoil spring securely dogged, trip the slide-lock lever and pull the slide off. The only other tricky point on these guns is removing the hammer. Along the inside curve on the back strap of the grip, note a small hole. Pull back the hammer just short of full cock and insert a slim drift punch in this hole. A point will be found where the punch will go between the mainspring follower and the hammer strut. Push the punch home at this point and the mainspring will be locked in place. The hammer may now be removed with impunity.

CZ27 Czechoslovak Pistol. Many of these were brought back by returning soldiers. This is a comparatively simple gun but may foil the amateur in efforts to get it apart. Note a small knurled button on the left side of the front portion of the frame. Pull it down and push it through the frame from the right side. Remove it entirely from the gun, and the slide may then be removed.

Colt and S&W Revolvers. These guns are made with watch-like precision and must be treated with the same respect. The steel in them is soft and easily bent or damaged. Even the gun-slinger's trick of banging the cylinder shut with a motion of the gun will spring a cylinder crane and knock the cylinder out of precise alignment. The cylinder and crane assembly is removed from these guns as a unit. Note a screw on the right side of the frame, immediately beneath the cylinder. Back it out about halfway, and when the cylinder is swung open, it may be slid forward out of the frame. Observe caution in removing the side plates from the frames of these guns. Remove all screws, and the grips. Then strike the metal grip of the gun, immediately back of the side plate, using a rawhide mallet. The side plate will fall out. Never pry it out or you will damage it.

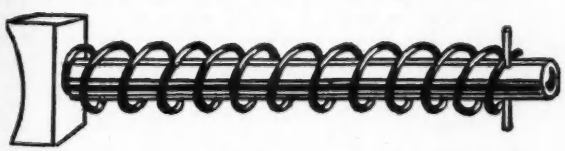


Fig. 2: Small pin through hole in end of Iver Johnson mainspring guide will hold spring in place while gun is being taken apart

Standard Gas-Operated Automatic. This atrocity was made in four calibers: .25 Remington, .30 Remington, .32 Remington, and .35 Remington. The intent was to produce a combination slide-operated and auto-loading rifle. It is much better to leave these rifles put together, even though they don't function, or to leave them apart if they happen to be in that state. They are dangerous things, and no parts are available for them. Just the same, some misbegotten user is going to insist that a gunsmith fix one.

The takedown is simple. Just back of the trigger guard is a hole. Push a punch or a cartridge in this hole and the gun will pull in half. The rest of it is more tricky. On top of the barrel, just opposite the gas port, is what looks like an extra, blanked-off sight slot. This may be at the muzzle, or midway on the barrel. Remove the blank and loosen the screw beneath it. The gas-cylinder assembly may now be driven forward on the barrel. All the operating parts in the receiver will swing right out the bottom on the actuating arm.

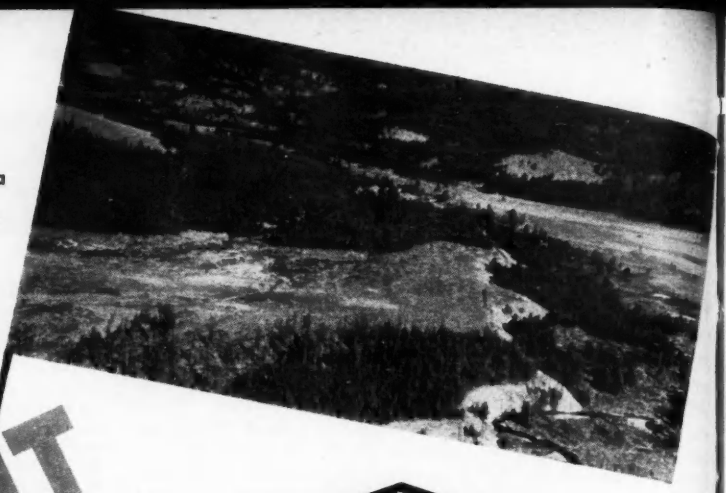
Steyr Straight-Pull Rifle. This is the official arm of the Austrian and Bulgarian armies and is one version of the Mannlicher. The bolt works straight backward and forward like the Canadian Ross. To remove the bolt, push the trigger forward as far as it will go and pull the bolt out. To get the bolt back in, pull the bolt head forward against its internal spring until it catches. Working carefully to avoid letting the bolt head release and spring back, engage the bolt and shove home.

Original Newton. Most features on this gun follow the Mauser design closely but it has a novel bolt stop. To get the bolt out, cock the gun. Snap the trigger and hold it in its full rearward position. Then the bolt may be withdrawn.

Italian Carcano. This rifle is simply made, but a couple of features may cause trouble. To remove the internal parts from the bolt, push forward and counterclockwise on the safety. This will disengage a small lug and allow the firing pin and safety assembly to be withdrawn as a unit. To remove the extractor from the bolt, stick a screw driver beneath the extractor hook. Push the hook outward from the bolt body about ⅛ inches and pry it forward.

Enfield. The only point at all puzzling on the Enfield is removing the safety. Rotate the safety until the end of its spring plunger protrudes from its housing. Grasp this and pull forward with a pair of pliers. The safety may now be turned to a six o'clock position and pulled out. ♦ ♦ ♦

The remarkable record of a successful elk-hunting trip, photographed in the Chamberlain Basin, in the heart of Idaho's rugged Primitive Area



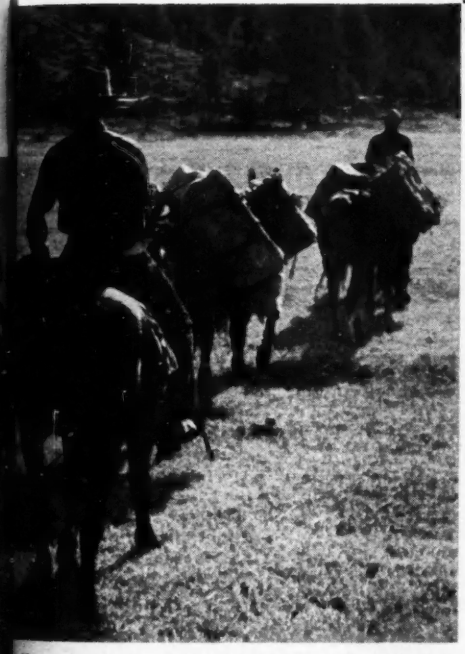
ELK HUNT IDAHO

Photographs by Pete Barrett

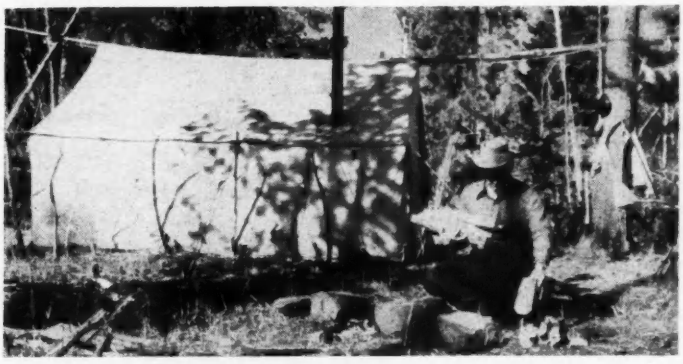
Hunter Ted Trueblood (right) and outfitter George McCoy near the corral of the McCoy ranch, in Idaho's Chamberlain Basin. "I think I'll take you fellows up to the headwaters of Pup Creek," says George. "Saw a nice bull and some cows near there day before yesterday and the place is loaded with sign"

The animals are rounded up early next morning and driven into the corral. Trueblood, in plaid shirt, helps lash some mantaed gear (wrapped in a canvas square) onto a mule

Unloading at Pup Creek, which a one-legged man could hop across. The horses will be brought back at a prearranged date unless the hunters walk out of the mountains sooner, a distance of about seven miles. This is a typical arrangement: you figure how long it will take to get the game you want, then add a day or two for luck and the packer comes to get you



The pack string heads into the foothills and will climb to about 7,000 feet. There are no roads within thirty miles. The trail, in this instance, is one maintained by the Forest Service

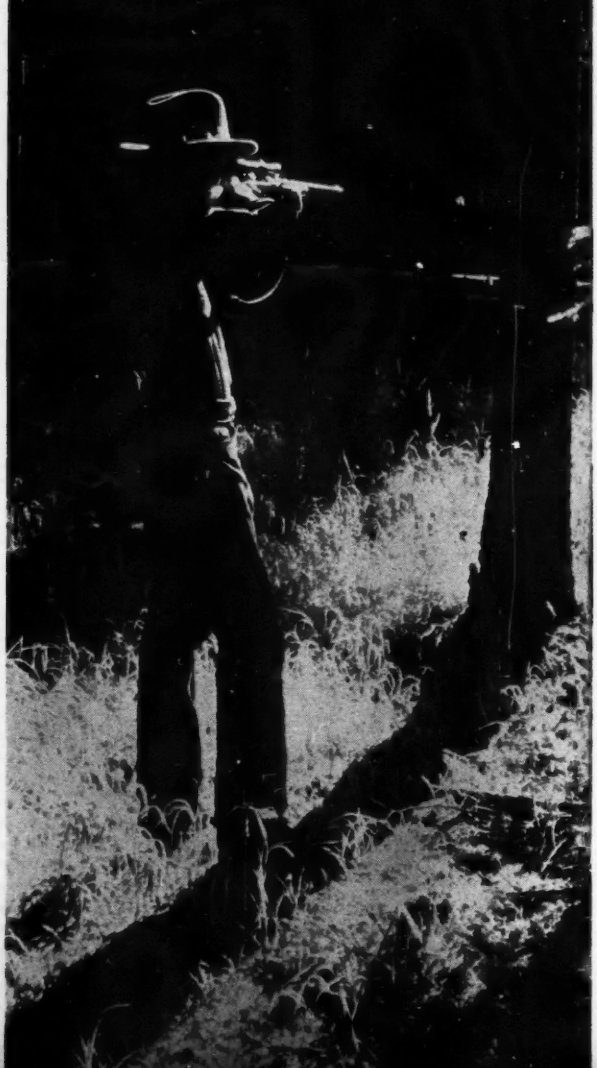


Camp has been set up and it is only 2 in the afternoon of the day before the season opens. Ted and Pete will have time to do some preliminary scouting of the terrain

A hunter hasn't lived until he has heard the weird, screaming 'bugle' of a bull elk. Here Ted imitates the three-note cry with a homemade call—a piece of ½-inch galvanized pipe with a whistle stopple at the mouthpiece end. At this time of year most bulls will have acquired a harem of several cows and will be guarding them jealously. Now and then a bull will let go with a hair-raising scream which is nothing less than a warning or a challenge to other bulls. Thus when Ted bugles he is in effect challenging some bull to a fight. For several days Ted has been bugling at the heads of pockets, ravines, and other likely places (along with the regular business of hunting, of course, which includes the location of bedding and feeding grounds, recently used wallows, and water holes). Now a bull has answered Ted's call from the valley below

Ted sifts a handful of dust to test the wind. In mountain hunting like this the wind is likely to shift several times during the course of a long stalk, so the cautious hunter tests it whenever he can. Elk have excellent hearing and a keen sense of smell

This is typical of the sort of blowdowns which always face a man when he has some se... stalking to do. Most of the logs here are between four and six feet above the ground. ... grit your teeth and start log-hopping, as this is the quietest and speediest way to get thr... the stuff. When there has been a recent snowfall, or when it is raining, this sort of going i... real butt breaker. Men with a limited swearing vocabulary are advised to stick to the mou... meadows



Trueblood, in the lead, has bugled again and suddenly sees the flash of the early morning sun on elk antlers. Here he takes a head-on shot offhand, the distance being about 100 yards. Rifle is a Model 70 Winchester in .270 caliber, 130-grain Silvertip ammunition

The bull has gone down at the fir... Ted runs forward through the ... which for a wonder are fairly o... spot. Ted waits a moment whi... mal flounders, wanting to get i... shot but not spoil the meat

fresh elk bed. The rifle is approximately in the center of the pressed-down rea. There is no dew where the animal has lain, and there is fresh urine to e side of the bed, indicating that the creature was not alarmed when it ot up recently

He went thataway! This is not a big elk track; it was probably made by a cow or a small bull. Tracks of a good bull are usually placed outward, with the individual prints about four inches long. Cows walk with the hoofprints more in line

The bull starts to get up and Ted lines up on the neck through his Weaver K4 scope sight

With a quick lunge, the bull gets behind a spruce. Ted hasn't shot the second time yet. The action shown here is actually going along fast

Now the bull is away and in the clear. Ted drops it for keeps with a neck shot

Ted approaches, rifle at the ready just in case the elk is not yet finished . . .

Here it is close to—a young bull with oddly deformed brow tines. The animal had been dead for perhaps a minute when this picture was made. "The fun is over now," says Ted. "I've got to go to work." He bleeds the carcass immediately, then dresses it out

Cheesecloth keeps out the ever-pr… flies. Ted sprinkles pepper at th… the cloth as a further deterrent, … up any difficult places with the … Then he blazes a trail from the …

st heigh
ter. Th
pack
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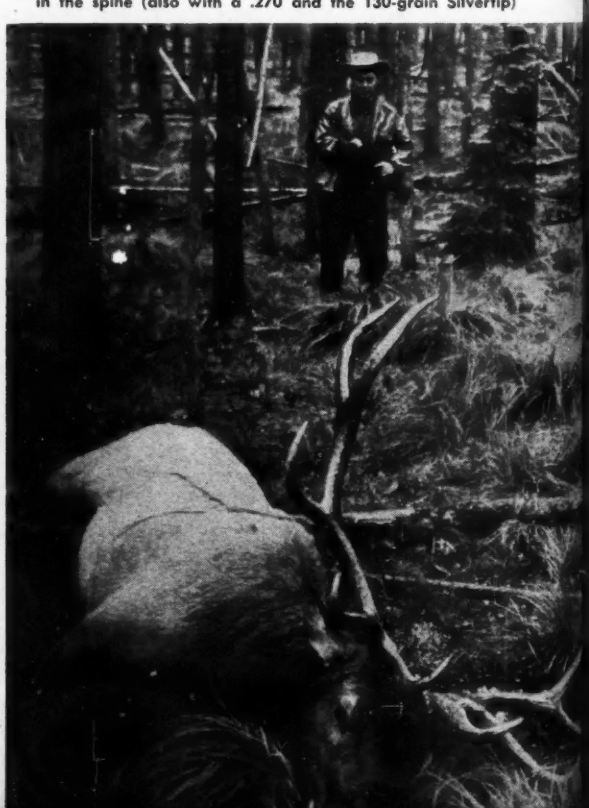
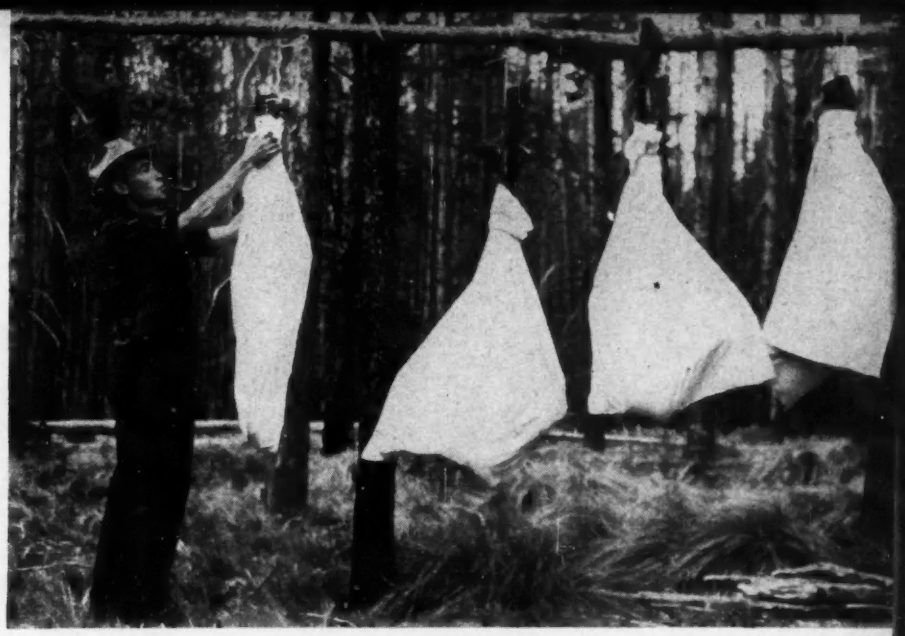
ELK HUNT — 3 DAYS LATER

While Ted bugled once more, and beat on a tree with a branch to … tate the clashing of antlers on wood, Pete eased forward, shot this … in the spine (also with a .270 and the 130-grain Silvertip)

Days later, at the end of an achingly long climb in the rain, Ted and Pete topped out on a ridge on the trail of a band of elk. Ted bugled wearily (though elk don't usually bugle in wet weather) and got an immediate answer from down the slope. There followed the thunder of hoofs as the bull drove away his harem. Then the animal advanced and shredded the bark from this tree with his antlers, working up steam for the coming battle





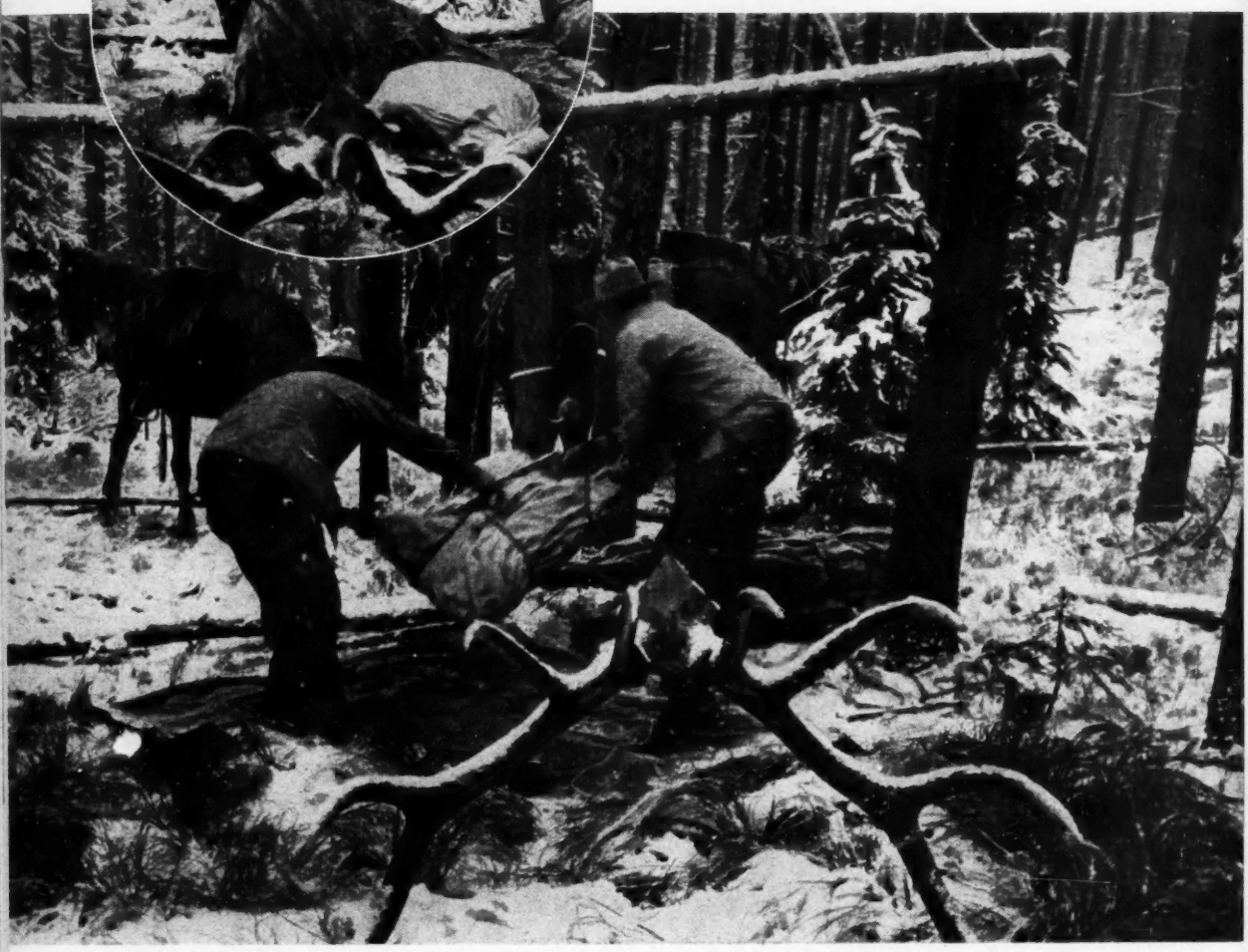
Back in camp, Ted has about 450 pounds of meat, all of it edible. This bull was only three-quarters grown. Quarters from a mature bull will weigh 125 pounds and more (with the skin on). Elk meat, by the way, is tasty stuff, resembling prime beef. Bagging this way safeguards against flies but not bears. As it happened, a bear ate out most of the tenderloin from one quarter a couple of days before the horses were brought in

st height of land to aid in finding the
ter. The next morning Ted sets out
pack containing a small saw, an ax,
loth bags to contain the quarters of
on their way back to the base camp

You wonder how the old boy could get through the jackpines with that rack. The elk's greatest spread was an even 46 inches. This is by no means a record head, though the points are exceptionally symmetrical. A nonresident big-game license costs $50 in Idaho. The elk tag, being affixed here, is an additional $2.00. At a time like this such expenditures seem purely nominal!

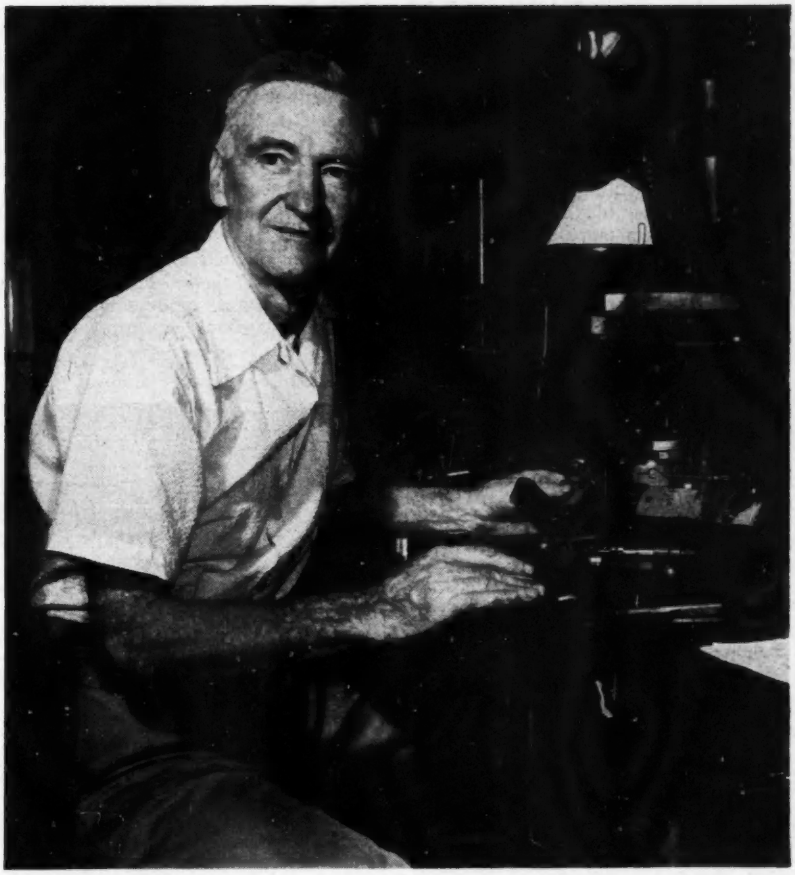
This is the pack train heading out from George McCoy's. So far the weather has been just right for shirtsleeves hunting most of the time. Those clouds don't look so good though . . . and sure enough, it begins to snow. This is just part of the train here, taking a switchback in the trail

Remember the blizzard of 1949 in Idaho—the one that made the papers because hundreds of hunters were marooned, some fatally? This is the beginning of it. Way off in the middle of nowhere, George McCoy has spread out a pile of tarps and has begun to manta a quarter from Pete's elk

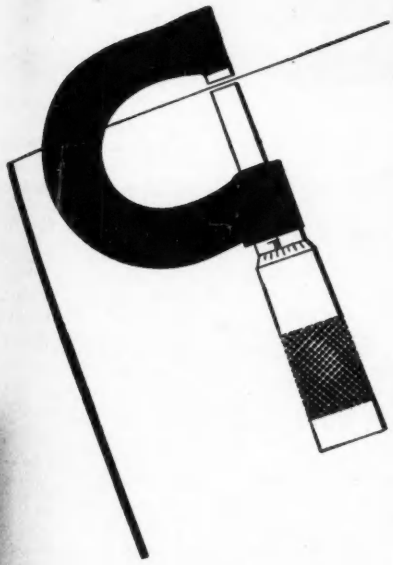


Working in the fast-falling snow, Ted and George grab a 125-pound mantaed quarter . . . and hoist it aboard a pack mule, marking the end of a hunt that neither Ted nor Pete will ever forget. Who could, with those antlers over his fireplace!

Accuracy Specialist



Before he turned to the problems of improving the accuracy of handguns, A. E. Berdon had a successful career in the automotive industry as a research engineer and production manager



By COL. A. M. LIBASCI, USA

What sort of man is A. E. Berdon, the fellow down in Florida who has made such a reputation for the work he does to improve the accuracy of a handgun?

THE TRUTH of a widely used quotation was never more clearly substantiated than in the person of Mr. A. E. Berdon, the handgun accuracy wizard of Lakeland, Florida. The pistol shooting world has indeed 'beaten a path' to his door. Berdon has a two-year backlog of handgun jobs, in spite of the fact that he has not advertised nor published his address for years! Every serious match pistoleer has discovered that a Berdon-processed handgun means points added to his score.

A list of Berdon's satisfied customers includes practically every present-day, top-notch pistol competitor. In a survey made last year, I found nine out of ten of the top champions were using Berdon-processed guns! Most of the current handgun records have been made with Berdon guns.

Listen to what our super-shooters say about his work. Harry Reeves, who holds most of the present handgun records, in a recent letter says, "I have had all of my trigger work done by Berdon since 1939 and feel there is no one who can do better. His theory on trigger pulls is sound and practical and combined with his superb workmanship makes a wonderful combination."

That other superman of the handgun, Joe Benner, says, "When there is a gunsmiths' Hall of Fame, Mr. Berdon's name will be listed on top of the heap. His work is outstanding!" Benner has recently broken two long-standing .45 records with his Berdon gun—197 slow fire at 50 yards, and 882 aggregate!

Every owner of a Berdon-processed handgun is a walking testimonial to this mechanical genius. To own a Berdon gun is truly a mark of distinction that sets a man in a class by himself. I have never known one to be advertised for sale! Otherwise impatient—and impecunious—shooters purchase extra sets of guns and send them for processing, knowing they have a long wait. Their attitude is truly well summarized in a letter Mr. Berdon has

in his files. "I intend to shoot for many years yet and can afford to wait to obtain a Berdon gun," wrote this philosophical handgunner!

What manner of man is this mechanical perfectionist who devotes his life and efforts to improving the accuracy of handguns?

Upon first meeting Mr. Berdon one is impressed by his graciousness and charm. He is a cultured, refined and educated gentleman; soft-spoken, courteous and tolerant of other's opinions. There is not the slightest trace or tint of commercialism in his system. He is as honest and ethical in his work and relations with his customers as a family physician.

Basically, he is a perfectionist and somewhat of an idealist. His greatest thrill is the great pleasure he derives from producing super-accurate jobs for shooting enthusiasts. As a result of these ingrained qualities, Berdon has not expanded nor fully exploited his work. Every gun that leaves his workshop is processed by his own hands only. Every job is an individual hand-fitted custom job. He employs no assistants; he farms out no work! Hence the long waiting list of jobs to do.

Additional proof of his non-exploitation is his reasonable charges for his work, which are no higher than average. I am certain that he would have as much business if he doubled his charges!

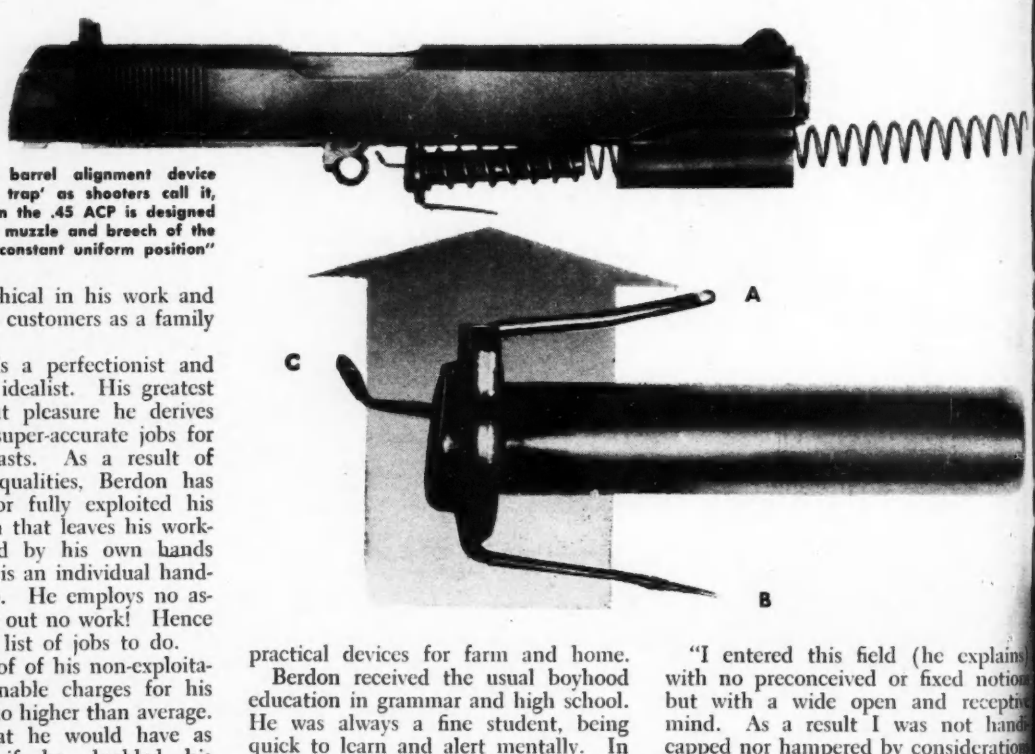
His rigid ethics will not permit him to accept 'bribes' or 'bonuses' for quick jobs. No matter who you are, you wait your turn (except for emergency repair work for match shooters). I consider myself one of Mr. Berdon's best friends. However, he has had two of my guns for almost two years now, and I'm still patiently waiting. He drives himself day and night to get the work out. "I wish I could get out all the work I am offered," he has said time and again.

Berdon was born in Seymour, Indiana, on December 8, 1884. His father, of French origin, was a highly skilled bootmaker. His mother, of German origin, also came from a family of artisans, inventors of many practical devices for farm and home.

Berdon received the usual boyhood education in grammar and high school. He was always a fine student, being quick to learn and alert mentally. In 1907 he received a degree in Electrical Engineering from Purdue University, making straight A's in all subjects, and plunged into a brilliant career in research and invention.

To list or describe all his inventions would be beyond the limits of this article. The scope of his inventive genius is fantastic! Among his many successful and profitable inventions were the following: automobile fuel pumps; first successful automobile electric lighting system; the automatic vacuum spark advance for auto ignition; thermostatic control for generator output; sliding engagement gear for electric self-starter; special windings on ignition coils to prevent burn-outs due to surges; many types of automatic meters and recording gauges for research laboratory use and for industry; and a host of extremely useful electrical and physical equipment for highly specialized scientific research work. During these years, Mr. Berdon was chief of research and/or production for some of the big names in the auto industry.

With this successful, productive background of research engineer in many fields, Berdon turned his talents to handguns in 1934. Applying his razor-sharp mind to the mechanisms of handguns, he soon began to patent inventions to improve the accuracy and functioning of handguns.



Berdon says the barrel alignment device (right), or 'mouse trap' as shooters call it, which he installs in the .45 ACP is designed "to keep both the muzzle and breech of the pistol barrel in a constant uniform position"

"I entered this field (he explains) with no preconceived or fixed notions but with a wide open and receptive mind. As a result I was not handicapped nor hampered by considerations of what was thought desirable and not desirable in handgun mechanisms."

Most of Mr. Berdon's methods of processing have not been accurately described. This is more because of his innate modesty than because of trying to maintain secrecy. Certainly there is nothing secret about his work or methods. One only has to strip one of his jobs to see the mechanisms. Furthermore, his mechanisms are protected by patents.

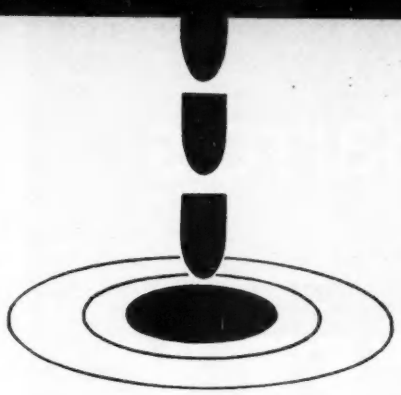
Berdon is a handgun specialist and does no rifle work except experimentally. Although his .22 and .38 revolver and automatic work is just as fine, today Berdon is perhaps best known for his accuracy work on the .45 ACP. Our very best shooters think nothing of averaging 95 at 50 yards with Berdon-accuratized 45's! Scores

of 290 to 295 are not uncommon over the National Match Course with his guns.

Anyone who is handy with tools can tighten up a .45 ACP and improve its accuracy. This constitutes the usual accuracy job. Berdon starts where others leave off! He does all the usual things, such as fitting the front barrel bushing carefully (but, unlike other jobs, it can be removed without a wrench) and fitting barrel to slide, including headspacing, fitting trigger to frame, and making and fitting oversize heat-treated hammer and sear pins. In addition, however, he installs two mechanisms that really make the gun the dream that it is!

"No matter how carefully you fit metal parts, there is unavoidable progressive wear between such parts as slide and frame; link, lug and pin; barrel bushing and barrel; and barrel and slide," Berdon explains. To counteract the effect of this progressive wear, Berdon uses his so-called 'barrel alignment device.' For no good reason, his customers call it the 'mouse trap.'

The barrel aligning device, Berdon further explains, "was designed primarily for the .45 and Super .38 Colt Automatic Pistols. It operates to force the barrel upward into the slide, with locking lugs in full engagement. The slide in turn is pushed upward, and this upward thrust is distributed so as to keep both the muzzle and breech of the barrel in a constant



uniform position. The arrangement constitutes an upside down 'machine rest' wherein the barrel, slide and sights are always returned to the same relative positions regardless of progressive wear on any opposing metal parts."

The barrel aligning device consists of three parts built into the recoil spring guide, each exerting a spring pressure. Part A thrusts upward (when the gun is in firing position) against the bottom of the barrel. This forces the barrel lugs into the slide slots and keeps barrel and slide in tight uniform contact regardless of metal wear. Part B fits into a milled groove in the frame and also has a powerful spring thrust acting as the fulcrum for Part A. Part C is a relatively weaker end-spring having a thrust of about two pounds against the barrel stud. This 'end-spring,' protruding from the recoil spring guide, functions to keep the barrel rocked back out of contact with the slide while it is returning to the firing position. It also cushions the slide return blow. Figure 2 shows the device assembled to barrel and slide.

The barrel aligning device, it must be emphasized, is not effective by itself. It must be used in conjunction with a careful fitting of parts. I have fired 8,000 rounds of reloads in my Berdon .45 ACP and it shoots as accurately as the first day I tried it! Many others have been in use for years. There is no doubt in my mind that the 'mouse trap' is extremely effective if used in a carefully processed .45 ACP.

The second mechanism Berdon installs in the .45 ACP is his famous 'antislap mechanism.' The mechanism is installed in practically every gun that has established a national record. It completely eliminates that awful 'slap' after the pressure on the trigger releases the hammer.

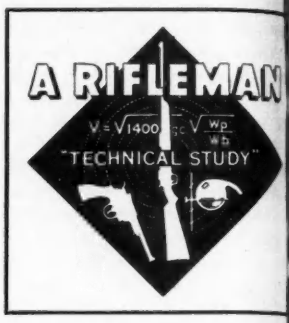
Let's let Mr. Berdon describe what its action is: "My antislap mechanism operates so that the resistance of the trigger to the finger does not change after the hammer is released. The pull remains the same after release as it was at the instant of release, and consequently there can be no muscular spasm (called 'slap') to flick the gun off the point of aim while the hammer is moving to detonate the primer."

This Berdon trigger mechanism is really a revelation to the uninitiated. Everytime I let my friends try my gun, they dry squeeze a shot and then give me an accusing look! No amount of

(Continued on page 39)

The trigger mechanism which A. E. Berdon installs on the .45 ACP "operates so that the resistance of the trigger to the finger does not change after the hammer is released . . . consequently there can be no muscular spasm (called 'slap') to flick the gun off the point of aim. . . ."

Revolver Barrels and VELOCITY



By Phil Sharpe

SINCE THE PUBLICATION of velocity tests with shortened rifle barrels (RIFLEMAN, February-March 1950) I have been bombarded, primarily by police officers, for a similar test on a revolver. Here it is.

The most popular handgun caliber in this country is the .38 Special. It is practically the standard for all police departments and, in addition, it has long been known as the standard target cartridge. To make the test useful, this cartridge must be the one tested.

From a technical standpoint, police officers are interested in *power*, not velocity. But since any given bullet depends on velocity for its power, the velocity must be determined. The standard police gun usually has a 6-inch barrel, but the trend has been toward the 4-inch type since it is easier to carry and quicker to get into action. Many hideaway guns used by law-enforcement officers when in plain clothes even use 2-inch barrels. Thus the test must run the full set of lengths available to get the full story. Some police and FBI men use the .357 S&W Magnum cartridge, and since this gun also handles the .38 Special, it was decided to use a .357 for the tests.

As originally brought out, the .357 Magnum revolver had an 8¾-inch barrel, allowing 9¾ inches between sights, thus staying well within the 10-inch limit for target match shooting. This was soon shortened to 8⅜ inches as the maximum length. My original gun—the first one from the factory—has the long 8¾-inch barrel. My private collection also contains a few spare barrels in this length, made before the gun appeared on the market, and fired 100 rounds each in special leading tests involving bullet design.

Smith & Wesson has always lapped barrels. However, these barrels I had as spares were not lapped since I desired to check the difference between lapped and unlapped barrels. Note this well—it is important in the analysis of the tests. Thus I had the factory fit one of these unlapped barrels on a .357 Magnum action for comparative firing with a lapped barrel.

The slowly-completed plans called for reduction of barrel length one-half inch at a time. Thus the velocity picture would be as complete as possible. The long barrel was carefully marked off for cutting, and it was found that it could be reduced to 3¼ inches without interfering with the encased cylinder rod, which, in this gun, supports the cylinder at both ends. At 2¾ inches, the front support is removed, and the unknown entered the picture. Could the gun continue to handle the 42,000-pound .357 loads without shooting loose—or worse? The barrel was marked for cutting to a minimum of 1¼ inches, which left but ¼-inch of barrel projecting from the frame.

Now for the firing plans. All loads to be fired were to be in 10-shot strings in my original Magnum and in the unlapped barrel test gun. Any two "identical" guns will produce velocity variations, but if the lapped barrel had any real advantage over the plain rifled type, it would show up here. It was planned to check fire all .38 Special loads also in my 7½-inch Bisley Colt, and in my tuned-up 6-inch Pachmayr Colt, my King-rebuilt S&W K-38, and a brand new heavy-barreled 6-inch K-38. Paper work showed that this would require a lot of ammunition.

Not only does barrel length affect velocity, but with any given bullet, the burning characteristics of the powder come into the picture. Thus the plan called for both factory-loaded ammunition and choice handloads. I wanted to learn the variations in performance of different powders and of bullets ranging from light to heavy. The plans indicated that at least 250 rounds of each kind of load must be available, and sixteen different loads were chosen to get a well-rounded picture. All told, this test, listed in my files as "Operation Maggie", involved the firing of about 3500 rounds of ammunition—no mean project.

All .357 handloads were to be assembled in a single batch of 1935 Winchester cartridge cases of the same lot, and using the same lot of Winchester 1950 number 111 primers. I had a quantity of 1935 Winchester standard loads of .357 Magnum ammunition and although I cherished them, I decided to sacrifice them for the cause. Other ammunition picked for the test included the following:

Load 2: Super-X .357 Magnum, 1950, lot 77 BG 2

Load 3: Super-X .357 metal-piercing, 1950, lot 18 BC 5

Load 4: .357 Handload with 150-grain Sharpe hollow-point (Hensley No. 51) 1 part tin to 15 of lead; 15.8 grains duPont 2400, lot H-10; Winchester 111 primer, lot AM7C of 1950 tested for pressure in 1935 at 34,000 pounds.

Load 5: Not fired

Load 6: Handload. Same primer, bullet and cases. Powder 5.1 grains Hercules Bullseye. Pressure tested at 18,000 pounds.

Load 7: Handload. Same primer, bullet and cases. Powder 5.0 grains Pistol powder No. 6. Pressure tested at 17,500 pounds.

Load 8: Handload. Same primer and case. Bullet is 158-grain Sharpe solid (Hensley 51) cast 1 to 15. Powder 4.5

grains of Hercules Bullseye. Pressure tested at 22,000 pounds.

Load 9: Handload. Same cases, primers and bullets as load 8. Powder 5.5 grains Pistol powder No. 5. Pressure tested at 20,000 pounds.

Load 10: Western Super-X .38 Special with 150-grain Lubaloy-coated bullet, factory lot 31 CN 41 of 1950.

Load 11: Western .38 Special standard with Lubaloy-coated 158-grain bullet, factory lot 63 DB 51 of 1950.

Load 12: Western .38 Special Super-Match mid-range wadcutter with 148-grain bullet, factory lot 69 DA 13 T of 1950.

Load 13: Handload by A. J. E. Shay. Western .38 Special cases with Western 1½ primer; bullet 130-grain B&M-Cramer wadcutter cast 1 to 20; powder 12.5 grains 4759. Case is full with powder lightly compressed.

Load 14: Handload by A. J. E. Shay. Same cases, primers and bullets as 13. Powder, 2.5 grains Bullseye.

Load 15: Handload by A. J. E. Shay. Same cases, primers and bullets as 13. Powder 3.0 grains Pistol powder No. 6.

Load 16: Western .38 Special Super Police, 200-grain Lubaloy-coated bullet, factory lot CC 4 of 1950.

Load 17: Remington .38 Special Target master mid-range wadcutter with 146-grain bullet. Factory lot 26 N 320 NK of 1941.

With some 3500 rounds of ammunition assembled and the gun ready, a new problem arose. What to do about sights? True, a front sight was on the barrel, but the project called for chronographing in 16 different barrel lengths. If I could actually get it to 1¼ inches, there would be nothing left on which a front sight could be mounted. And since Potter photo-electric chronograph screens cost almost two hundred bucks each, something must be done about the matter of a suitable sight to keep from shooting my screens full of holes.

My nearby gunsmith friend, Robert E. Ditchburn of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania came to the rescue. Bob is a serious experimenter and should have been an Ordnance Department man—he is handy at figuring out emergency equipment. Bob made a sight from junk in his scrap box—a unit mounted on the top of the frame in the position occupied by the conventional rear sight. To get something like a reasonable sight radius, this gadget was permitted to extend over the hammer spur. It made the gun a little difficult to cock, but I quickly mastered that. Sight radius was 2⅞ inches. Windage had to be adjusted by knocking the front blade sidewise in its dovetail. Elevation was achieved by sliding the rear leaf up and down and locking with a standard sight screw. The unit was attached at the front end only by a screw fitting the fine S&W threads in the regulation sight hole.

During the process of sighting-in this atrocity, a sad discovery was made. Three or four shots would loosen the screw, and it was necessary to tighten the sight after every third shot. Oh, well! Just another problem to work out and the firing could start.

For the technical man who worries about such things, the record shows that range house temperatures where firing took place ran between 58 and 65 degrees F; humidity ranged from 18 to 36 percent; barometric pressure ran from 30.64 to 31.09.

This is what was left after "Operation Maggie" had reduced the author's pet .357 Magnum S&W to a stubby one-and-a-quarter inch barrel length. Above is one of the original 8¾-inch barrels

TABLE ONE: Load	Test Gun 6¼-in. Bbl. Max. Var.	Mean Var.	Ins. Vel.	Test Gun 5¾-in. Bbl. Max. Var.	Mean Var.	Ins. Vel.	Pachmayr Colt, 6-in. Max. Var.	Mean Var.	Ins. Vel.	S&W-King K-38, 6-in. Max. Var.	Mean Var.	Ins. Vel.	S&W K-38 6-in. Bbl. Max. Var.	Mean Var.	Ins. Vel.
10	106	23	935	40	11	944	56	13	1010	57	18	1029	58	17	966
11	41	12	742	35	7	760	37	11	806	37	10	821	47	11	772
12	21	6	677	38	11	678	43	10	724	38	12	725	37	9	688
13	74	19	1128	61	16	1115	88	21	1154	Not Fired			Not Fired		
14	96	28	701	87	28	697	68	14	727	61	14	785	Not Fired		
15	64	12	755	81	23	760	114	35	792	47	10	838	Not Fired		
16	98	23	619	51	13	624	70	16	656	64	14	726	75	25	675
17	117	21	664	68	21	667	68	18	686	40	10	728	52	12	709

Once the firing started it usually began about 9:30 AM and ran continuously until 5:30 to 7:00 PM, seven days a week. It involved 14 days of continuous and painful firing. Velocities were checked with a Potter counter chronograph with the initial screen 10 feet from the gun muzzle and the second screen thirty feet distant. Thus all velocities are '25-foot instrumental velocity'—midway between the screens plus the 10-foot no-record zone.

First of all, here are my results with the lapped-versus-unlapped barrels:

Velocity, feet per second

Load	*Lapped barrel*	*Unlapped barrel*	*Difference*
1	1529	1423	106
2	1462	1392	69
3	1403	1325	78
4	1518	1440	78
5	Not fired		98
6	1117	1082	35
7	1111	1063	48
8	990	958	32
9	1044	1030	14
10	1040	951	89
11	810	756	54
12	709	682	27
13	1219	1153	66
14	746	672	74
15	823	794	29
16	683	610	73
17	707	670	37

From the standpoint of naked-eye appearance, the lapped and unlapped barrels appeared to be identical in smoothness. The above comparison of the two 8¾-inch barrels with 16 different loads clearly indicates that, through its uniform gain, one may assume that a lapped barrel gives higher velocity. The advantage appears greater with heavy loads and heavy bullets than with light loads and light bullets.

With that test completed, we were ready to operate on the barrel of the test gun. But all was not serene in the testing. Not only did the sight loosen, but the heavy recoil kept shooting the rear sight leaf out. I found it and replaced it, tightening the lock screw solidly. It was found that this had to be tightened every 30 shots—after that it stayed put, eliminating the necessity of sideline sighting in and consequent waste of ammunition.

After about two hundred rounds of firing, the front sight shot loose in its dovetail and had to be repositioned, sighted in, and prick-punch staked into place. After that it stayed put.

Finally it happened. After about six hundred rounds of firing, that small S&W sight screw refused to carry the load of the heavy sight. A visitor was watching and he insisted that to be spectacular, I wear my old army helmet. It was a good guess. With a bang, the sight screw let go, the entire sight assembly bounced off the ceiling of my shooting room and contacted the top of my helmet with a loud *bong*. The sight was undamaged, and so was I.

Removing the broken screw fragment, I drilled and tapped the frame to hold a standard 6-48 telescope sight base screw with a lock washer beneath the head. The result was a surprise. The next shot went off with a combination bang and the musical clang of a gong. The recoil started vibrations like a tuning fork. Two more shots like that discouraged me. I drilled and tapped another 6-48 hole at the rear of the sight base and frame and inserted a headless screw just far enough to contact the frame and dampen the vibration. That did it. The sight went the remainder of the way through 3500 rounds of firing with occasional screw tightening and no other trouble.

All shooting was conducted from a bench rest, the forearm only being supported on a sandbag, permitting the gun and hand free normal recoil. Did I say *normal*? Recoil with the heavy Magnum loads in the shorter barrel lengths was somewhat in excess of normal, to put it mildly. Visitors never bothered me. They would watch a couple of shots, listen to the racket, and suddenly leave.

I celebrated my 1950 birthday in a way no man should. My notes indicate that the barrel was then 3¾ inches long. Firing started at 10:23 AM. By 6:47 PM it was down to 2 inches and I had chronographed 610 rounds, the largest number ever checked through my chronograph in one day without assistance. I tried to make it 700 rounds, but was too much beaten up to take it longer.

The long firing process was not without its amusing and painful highlights. I used the standard grips—I didn't want the expense of hand-fitting custom grips for such a short-lived gun. The painful recoil cut into my hand, splitting the web between thumb and trigger finger. A friend in California who has tramped up and down my rifle range changing targets was inspired. As a birthday gift, he sent me a big box of corn plasters. My feet have never been troubled with corns, but I can usually figger out a use for everything. Net result: One corn plaster was applied to the crotch of my tender hand and another on the gun frame at the offending spot. It helped a lot. Those two plasters lasted about 30 shots before wearing too loose. By the time the box was consumed, the job was almost finished.

But that ain't all! I set up my ancient X-Ring bullet trap behind the photoscreens to catch the lead. After all, I fired some 80 pounds of bullets, and that lead is worth saving. The 15-year-old trap was never made for use with the .357 Magnum! It likes the .45 auto, but some 300 rounds of that high-speed lead would plug it solid and it took two hours of blow-torch work on the centrifugal casting to free it. It must have required this operation about ten times. When the test was over, the trap was retired. The plates were buckled, rivets split, and the casting cracked in several places with lead extruded through the cracks. I ordered a new one from X-Ring who insist that their current job is heavier and can handle the Magnum loads.

"Operation Maggie" actually covered three separate expe-

ments. 1) Lapped vs. unlapped barrel performance; 2) Velocity of 16 different loads in different guns of equal barrel length; and 3) effect of barrel length on velocity.

Table 1 shows velocity figures for the various .38 Special loads. These loads were fired in the test Magnum when the barrel length was 7¼ and 7¾ inches, in comparison with my 7½-inch Bisley Colt. At lengths of 6¼ and 5¾ inches in the test Magnum they were fired in three 6-inch target guns, my fine Pachmayr-King Colt, my Smith & Wesson-King K-38, and my new S&W K-38 Masterpiece heavy barrel. Note the difference in velocity in the various guns—a difference that no expert can explain—*and prove!* Such variations are known to exist in all guns, and have no bearing upon accuracy.

Now for the big test itself—

One of the most interesting problems of the shooter is that of velocity. Many of us take a lot of things for granted. We have assumed things merely because some one else (who also assumed) has stated that he is quoting facts. The problem of velocity enters into this picture.

Let us assume that in any caliber you hand pick ten perfect brass cases for uniformity, weight, perfection of flashholes, and other factors. From a batch of bullets you pick ten which appear perfect and do not vary more than 1/10 grain. You precision-weigh powder charges as close as 1/1000 grain. Then you carefully fire them and chronograph them. Do they all give the same velocity? They do not! Any chronograph operator getting three identical readings in a row stops work and looks for trouble. He thinks that the chronograph is out of order.

The variations in velocity in a given load are due to many things: 1) Variation in primer cup thickness and hardness; 2) Variation in mixture in primer; 3) Variation in hammer blow; 4) Variation in flashhole shape and size; 5) The previous four add up to variations in ignition; 6) Variation in powder charge and location within the case; 7) Variation in bullet weight, diameter, roundness, crimp, jacket hardness, or lead hardness; 8) Variations in brass case ranging from capacity through hardness, the latter having a profound effect on the pull of the bullet from the case mouth.

Add to that the temperamental character of each individual gun, which may or may not like the particular combination of components, and you get a mass of excuses, *but no explanation* of the velocity variation.

In "Operation Maggie" the object was to determine the amount of average velocity lost by reducing an 8¾-inch .357 Magnum barrel one-half inch at a time and chronographing it as each length with 16 different loads in 10-shot strings.

A casual study of the tabulated data points out one startling fact: *Velocity loss is not constant!* A simple check of the figures covering all 16 loads reveals that all of them, at certain points in barrel reduction, show a *gain* in velocity instead of the anticipated loss. This phenomenon is known to any technician who has conducted such a barrel-reduction test, regardless of whether it may be with a rifle or revolver, and regardless of caliber (see "Barrel length vs. Velocity", RIFLEMAN, February-March, 1950).

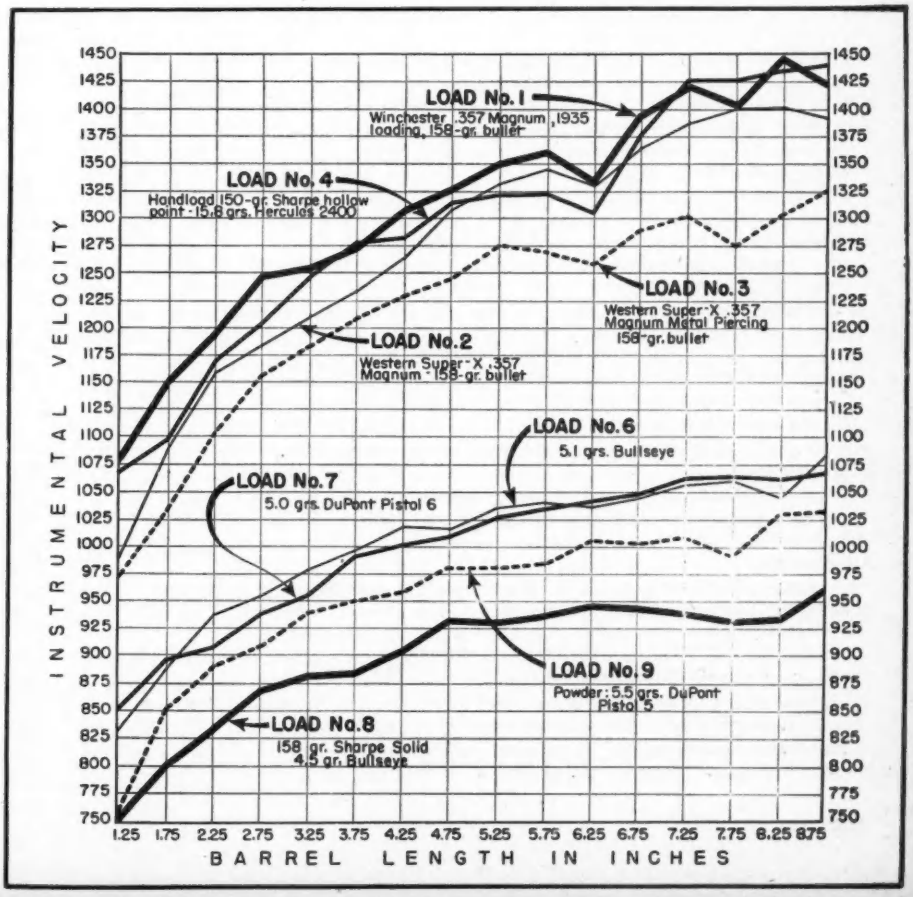
What causes these velocity gains? No ammunition man or gun expert has ever satisfied the writer with his explanation. The individual load just happened to like a shorter barrel length, that's all.

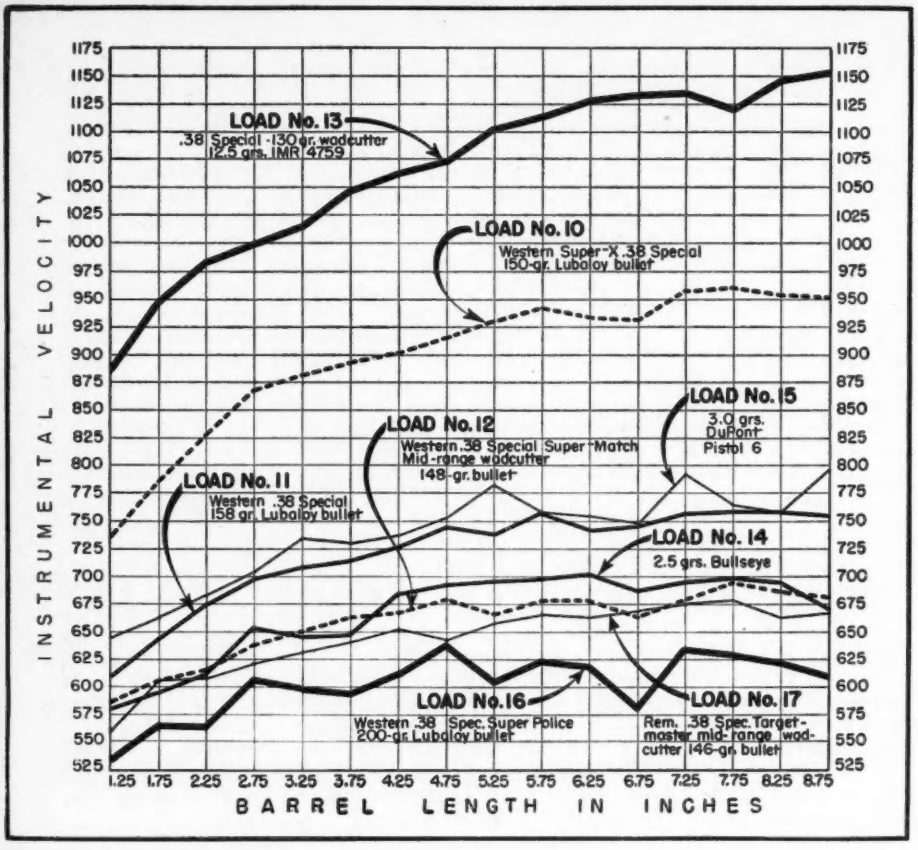
Much of this variation is due to the burning characteristics of the powder. Note that well. Another thing is that as any bullet jumps from the mouth of the cylinder into the barrel, it is expanded at the base by the blast of gas pushing it. This upsets into the chamfer of the barrel, and as the bullet is swaged back into shape to take the rifling, the resistance varies. And no one has ever determined whether or not the acceleration is constant throughout the length of the barrel.

"Operation Maggie" was a headache (I ain't kidding!) from start to finish. It wound up with the barrel only 1¼ inches long. At 2¾ inches the front latch was removed, leaving just the extractor pin to hold the cylinder in alignment. Yet without the normal required support, more than 750 rounds were fired.

When the test was completed, I visited the Smith & Wesson plant on one of my tours and displayed what was left of a fine $100 Magnum revolver. In the plant test room, some of the boys fired it to see what it felt like and admitted that "it wasn't so good". Then I put it on the final inspection bench and had the chief inspector go over it in person. He checked for action performance, cylinder bolt action, cylinder alignment—in fact, all of the tests which could be conducted. Some were eliminated because a lot of the gun wasn't there any more. To their amazement and mine, it would have passed the final inspection!

On this trip I dropped in on my old friend A. J. E. Shay, of


INSTRUMENTAL VELOCITY
BARREL LENGTH IN INCHES
LOAD No. 1
Winchester .357 Magnum, 1935 loading, 158-gr. bullet
LOAD No. 4
Handload 150-gr. Sharpe hollow point - 15.8 grs. Hercules 2400
LOAD No. 3
Western Super-X .357 Magnum Metal Piercing 158-gr. bullet
LOAD No. 2
Western Super-X .357 Magnum - 158-gr. bullet
LOAD No. 6
5.1 grs. Bullseye
LOAD No. 7
5.0 grs. DuPont Pistol 6
LOAD No. 9
Powder: 5.5 grs. DuPont Pistol 5
LOAD No. 8
158 gr. Sharpe Solid 4.5 gr. Bullseye



Wurtsboro, New York, better known to match shooters as Bert. He looked it over doubtfully. "Will it shoot with that 1¼-inch barrel?" I grinned. "You know how to find out." Bert didn't answer. He ran out a 25-yard target, tried a few sighting shots with a load I had previously chronographed for him at about 1100 feet per second in one of his 6-inch barrels, changed targets, and fired a 10-shot string for record. The score was 97 with two shots called. I have the target, certified by witnesses.

Bert laid the gun down. His comment: "It will shoot." Then he added as an afterthought, ". . . but it ain't fun!"

Me, I'm an ornery cuss. I am not through with Maggie yet. I'm figuring out further experiments with that stubby little 1¼-inch barrel.

Finally, here are some detailed notes on each of the loads used in "Operation Maggie".

Load 1: Winchester .357 Magnum, 1935 loading, with 158-grain lead bullet and Hercules 2400 powder. Velocity loss in cutting barrel from 8¼ to 3¾ inches, 171 feet per second, or 38 feet per inch removed. (Note: Currently-made .357 Magnum revolvers are supplied with barrels ranging from 8⅜ to 3½ inches.)

Load 2: Western Super-X .357 Magnum, loaded with Western ball powder and 158-grain Lubaloy-plated bullet. Velocity loss, 8½ to 3¾ inches, 166 feet per second, or 37 feet per inch removed.

Load 3: Western Super-X .357 Magnum metal-piercing with 158-grain metal-tip bullet and Hercules 2400 powder. Velocity loss, 95 feet per second, or 21 feet for each inch removed.

Load 4: .357 Magnum handload by Phil Sharpe. Bullet: 150-grain Sharpe hollow-point (Hensley No. 51). Powder: 15.8 grains Hercules 2400, Winchester 1950 No. 111 primer in 1935 Winchester cases. Pressure tested at 34,000 pounds. This load showed consistent extreme variation from shot to shot in all barrel lengths, varying from 43 feet at 8¼ inches to 182 at 8¾ inches, yet it sho extremely well—better than loa with half of this extreme variatio Velocity loss, 8¼ to 3¾ inche 160 feet per second, or 36 feet fr each inch of barrel removed.

Load 5: Not fired.

Load 6: .357 Magnum, hand loaded by Sharpe, same as load except with 5.1 grains of Bullse powder. Pressure tested at 18,0 pounds. Velocity loss, 8¼ to 3 inches 53 feet per second, or 1 feet per inch removed. This lo loss is characteristic of Bullse powder.

Load 7: .357 Magnum, hand loaded by Sharpe. Same as load except with 5.0 grains duPont Pi tol Powder No. 6. Pressure tested a 17,500 pounds. Velocity loss, 8 to 3¾ inches, 72 feet per second, o 16 feet per inch of barrel remove Loss is greater than with Bullse but is consistently uniform.

Load 8: .357 Magnum, hand loaded by Sharpe. Same cases an primers as No. 4. Bullet: 1 grain Sharpe solid (Hensley N 51). Powder: 4.5 grains of Bull eye. Pressure tested at 22,0 pounds. Velocity loss, 8¼ to 3 inches, 53 feet per second or 1 feet per inch of barrel remove Compare with load No. 6. Bullseye powder performs well i normal pistol barrels, which explains why ammunition ma ers are still using it fifty years after its introduction.

Load 9: .357 Magnum, handloaded by Sharpe. Same a load 8 except powder charge, 5.5 grains duPont Pistol Powde No. 5. Pressure tested at 20,000 pounds. Velocity los 8¼ to 3¾ inches, 77 feet per second, or 17 feet per inch

Load 10: Western Super-X .38 Special with 150-grain Luba loy-plated bullet. Velocity loss, 6¼ to 4¼ inches, 34 fee per second or 17 feet per inch of barrel removed. Loss, 6¼ to 2¼ inches, 106 feet per second, or 27 feet per inch (Note: .38 Special revolvers are generally available wit 2, 4, 5, or 6-inch barrels.)

Load 11: Western .38 Special standard with 158-grai Lubaloy-plated bullet. Velocity loss, 6¼ to 4¼ inches, 1 feet per second or 8 feet per inch. Loss, 6¼ to 2¼ inche 67 feet, or 17 feet per inch.

Load 12: Western .38 Special Super-Match mid-range wad cutter with 148-grain bullet. This load seemed to care littl about barrel length. Velocity loss, 6¼ to 4¼ inches, 10 fee per second, or 5 feet per inch of barrel removed. Loss, 6¼ to 2¼ inches, 60 feet, or 15 feet per inch. Here, for th

TABLE TWO:

	Test Gun, 7¾-in. Bbl.			Test Gun, 7½-in. Bbl.			Bisley Colt, 7½-in. Bbl.		
Load	Max. Var.	Mean Var.	Ins. Vel.	Max. Var.	Mean Var.	Ins. Vel.	Max. Var.	Mean Var.	Ins. Vel.
10	42	10	961	42	9	958	37	11	1049
11	43	12	762	30	8	757	44	10	865
12	30	10	694	27	10	680	36	10	765
13	102	21	1121	54	16	1137	76	23	1218
14	107	19	698	62	15	695	41	13	775
15	121	30	763	103	22	790	120	23	838
16	67	22	628	69	18	634	71	14	725
17	66	17	679	65	15	675	98	46	711

technical boys, is a typical work sheet (for load 12) showing figures for extreme variation, mean variation, instrumental velocity and gain or loss for one load in sixteen different lengths of barrel. Multiply this by the number of loads tested and you can see what an amount of work went into "Operation Maggie".

Barrel Length	Extreme Variation	Mean Variation	Instrumental Velocity	Loss− Gain+
8¾	37	8	682	
8¼	50	11	686	+4
7¾	30	10	694	+8
7¼	27	10	680	−14
6¾	47	11	668	−12
6¼	21	6	677	+9
5¾	30	11	678	+1
5¼	24	7	668	−10
4¾	44	12	679	+11
4¼	24	6	667	−12
3¾	32	9	665	−2
3¼	49	10	650	−15
2¾	37	9	640	−10
2¼	28	8	617	−23
1¾	64	13	606	−11
1¼	35	7	587	−19

Load 13: .38 Special handload by A. J. E. Shay. Western cases with Western 1½ primers. Bullet: B&M-Cramer 130-grain wadcutter. Powder: 12.5 grains IMR 4759, case full, lightly compressed. Apparently uniform, yet unburned grains were left in the case and could be knocked from the barrel after firing at every length. Although used by many handloaders, this powder does not burn properly in handgun loads. Velocity loss, 6¼ to 4¼ inches, 64 feet per second or 32 feet per inch of barrel removed. Loss from 6¼ to 2¼ inches, 143 feet or 36 feet per inch.

Load 14: Another .38 Special handload by Shay using same components except powder charge: 2.5 grains of Bullseye. Velocity loss, 6¼ to 4¼ inch barrel length, 15 feet or 7½ feet per inch. Loss, 6¼ to 2¼, 88 feet, or 22 per inch.

Load 15: .38 Special, same as 13, except charged with 3.0 grains duPont Pistol Powder No. 6. Velocity loss, 6¼ to 4¼ inches, 17 feet, or 8½ feet per inch. Loss, 6¼ to 2¼ inches, 73 feet, or 18 feet per inch of barrel removed.

Load 16: Western .38 Special Super Police with 200-grain Lubaloy-plated bullet. This load is not fussy about barrel length, within reason, although it apparently gets tired of pushing the heavy slug through long barrels. Velocity loss, 6¼ to 4¼ inches, 7 feet per second, or 3½ feet per inch. Loss, 6¼ to 2¼ inches, 55 feet, or 14 feet per inch.

Load 17: Remington .38 Special Targetmaster mid-range wadcutter with 146-grain bullet. Here is another load which cares little about barrel length. Velocity loss, 6¼ to 4¼ inches, 13 feet per second, or 6½ feet per inch of barrel removed. Loss 6¼ to 2¼ inches, 55 feet, or 14 feet per inch. Compare these figures with those given for loads 12 and 16. ♦ ♦ ♦

ACCURACY SPECIALIST

Continued from page 33

words can describe the efficiency of the mechanism.

Briefly, the mechanism works as follows: At the instant of hammer release, the trigger impinges on a spring which is balanced at the same weight as the trigger pull! Simple? Instead of going from four pounds to one pound (trigger spring value), the trigger goes from four pounds to four pounds. Result—no 'slap'! The trigger is not stopped. It may be pulled beyond point of release. It gives the sweetest pull you ever felt!

Berdon's work on the .22 automatics consists of careful fitting of parts, use of oversize, heat-treated sear and hammer pins and the very effective antislap mechanism. Again I quote from personal experience. I had absolutely no success in getting one of the new .22 match target guns to function reliably until Mr. Berdon processed it. In two years, I've fired 15,000 rounds through it with nary a bobble except ammo misfires! Again, practically every record is held by a Berdon processed .22 automatic.

In recent years Mr. Berdon has done some experimental work on gun design in addition to his processing. Last year a redesigned .22 automatic in the capable hands of Capt. Thurman Barrier, USMC, took the .22 aggregate in the national pistol championship.

The gun consists of a rebarrelled .22 Cold Woodsman (old type) with a barrel of most radical design. This barrel consists of a smooth bore for about five inches; then it is slotted not like a compensator but lengthwise of the barrel; and the final inch beyond the compensator at the muzzle is rifled. The bullet jumps five inches through the smooth bore, passes through the ventilated slots through space, and then hits the rifling—thus defying all formerly accepted principles of chambrage. In effect, the gun has a chamber five inches long!

Whether the principle behind this gun is sound or not I do not know. All I know is that I shot the gun for a couple of weeks and beat my slow-fire average scores consistently. In rapid fire, the recoil was reduced and better scores resulted also. This gun has won many honors in the hands of some of our best shooters. Berdon is developing the smooth-bore, ventilated barrel idea still further.

At the recent Tampa matches, Berdon appeared with a new development which, in my opinion, will revolutionize the center-fire target game. He presented for trial a Colt Super .38 Automatic which he has converted to shoot .38 Specials! The gun will handle either factory or reload wadcutters with remarkable reliability. It, of course, has a Berdon accuracy job and trigger work. It is a dream gun.

I had the pleasure of shooting this gun in three tournaments this year. With it I was able to equal my revolver scores at 50 yards slow fire, and average two points better timed fire and three points better rapid fire—a total improvement of five points over the course and fifteen points in the center-fire aggregate! I fired 1500 rounds of reloads and factory wadcutters without a single bobble! The gun is a joy to shoot; let off is about 2¾ pounds and the recoil not much more than the .22!

Don't swamp Mr. Berdon with orders. I don't know whether he will accept such work yet. I know the gun is a success and the answer to a target shooters dream!

Recently, Mr. Berdon has decided to concentrate on his .45 accuracy work exclusively. He is also going to develop and exploit further his radical .22 automatic and probably his conversion of Super .38's to .38 Specials. He will continue to plug along on the backlog of processing jobs, working day and night at his shop or at his desk, and answering dozens of letters from anxious shooters. ♦ ♦ ♦

this COATING business

By Elsa and Robert J. Reichert

TIMES CHANGE, and so do words—or at least their meanings. Take the words 'coated binocular.' In 1945 you knew what they meant. Now you can't be sure. Today the meaning depends on many things—especially the country of origin.

In the United States the standard is set by government specifications, which require that "all glass-air optical surfaces shall be treated to reduce reflection losses." In a Kellner-eyepiece binocular the number of times the light ray passes through an optical surface is 20; in an Erfle eyepiece binocular 24. American binoculars have all of these surfaces processed; they are 100-percent coated. American magnesium-fluoride coating is also the hardest—the most rub-resistant—in the world, and therefore the most durable.

German manufacturers of first-quality binoculars, on the other hand, mean something different by the words 'coated binocular.' They mean that all glass-air surfaces are coated except the outer surfaces of the ocular and objective lenses. Thus, as shown in the table, these binoculars are about 80 percent coated. The German manufacturers say that processing the exposed surfaces of the ocular and objective lenses is inadvisable, as the coating will rub off. This causes a spotty appearance of these outer lens surfaces until all the coating has worn off. It does not, however, affect optical clarity. Because of the notably fine reputation of these German makes, their standard was accepted and a binocular with 80 percent of its surfaces processed came to be considered a coated binocular.

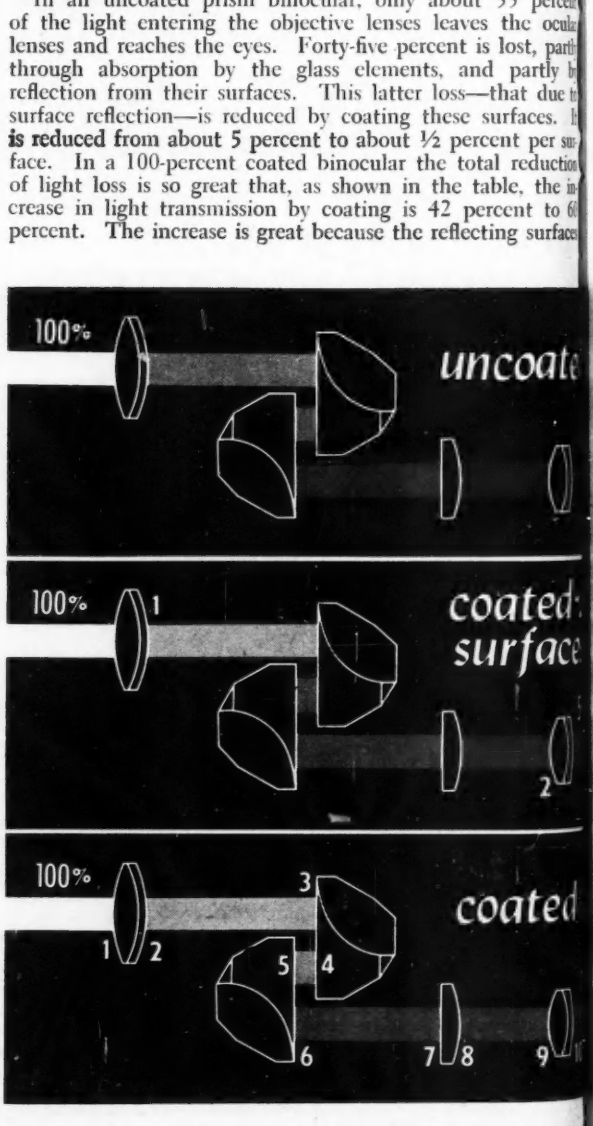
The French and Japanese have carried this precedent a step—sometimes several steps—farther. One French importer, in the catalog he sends to dealers, lists some models 'with coated optics'; these are fully coated. Other models are described 'with coated achromatic lenses.' As only the ocular and objective lenses are achromats, only these lenses are coated—eight of the twenty surfaces—a 40-percent job. It takes careful reading to detect the difference in the two descriptions, and to realize why some models are cheaper than others.

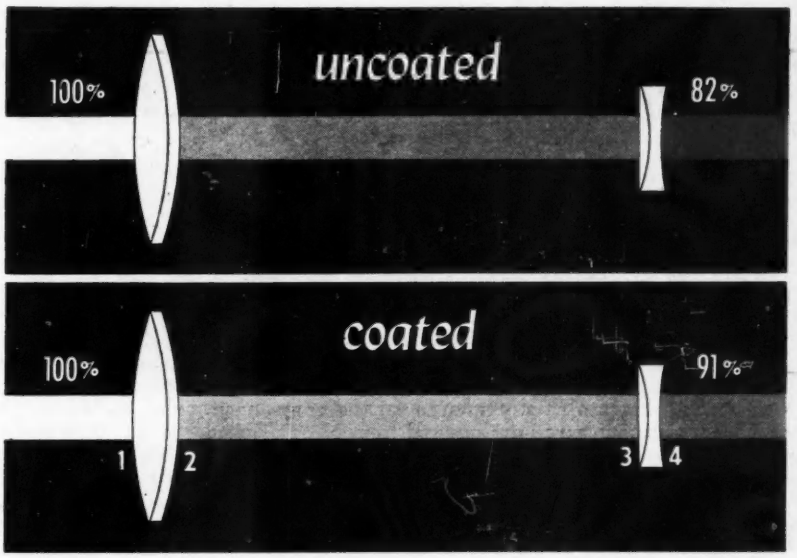
The Japanese, when imitating German designs, usually left the outer surfaces of the ocular and objective lenses uncoated. Thus, some Japanese glasses are 100 percent coated; others, like the German glasses, only 80 percent. But the market is becoming increasingly competitive. So more and more Japanese coated binoculars have fewer surfaces processed. In some the prisms are uncoated, in some the field lenses also, so that only the inside surfaces of the ocular and objective lenses are coated—a 20 percent job. As a matter of fact, Japanese binoculars vary greatly: one shipment may come through 60 percent coated, and the next only 20 percent. To call such glasses 'coated binoculars' is, to say the least, an exaggeration.

A small German factory has gone even farther, applying on the inner optical surfaces a substance that is not magnesium fluoride at all. It is merely a coloring material that makes glass parts look as if they are coated. Far from increasing the light transmission, this paint actually decreases it slightly, producing no optical benefit whatsoever. To call such a glass a 'coated binocular' is not an exaggeration—it is a falsehood with no purpose except to deceive.

Thus the term 'coated binocular' has by now become vague in meaning. The term 'coated field glass' is also confusing but for a quite different reason. This involves a basic fact about coating which is sometimes overlooked. Coating improves optical efficiency, not by adding something, but by eliminating (to a large extent) a disadvantage existing in uncoated instruments.

In an uncoated prism binocular, only about 55 percent of the light entering the objective lenses leaves the ocular lenses and reaches the eyes. Forty-five percent is lost, partly through absorption by the glass elements, and partly by reflection from their surfaces. This latter loss—that due to surface reflection—is reduced by coating these surfaces. It is reduced from about 5 percent to about ½ percent per surface. In a 100-percent coated binocular the total reduction of light loss is so great that, as shown in the table, the increase in light transmission by coating is 42 percent to 60 percent. The increase is great because the reflecting surfaces





Because a field glass has only four lens surfaces, coating increases light transmission only slightly Below, left: Some binoculars advertised as having 'coated lenses' have only two lens surfaces coated, increasing light transmission only 4.5 percent over the amount transmitted by a binocular with uncoated lenses. A binocular with all lens surfaces coated increases the amount of light transmitted by a very much larger percentage

are so many—20 to 24, as shown in the illustration at left.

With field glasses, on the other hand, 100-percent coating nets an appreciably smaller improvement. Having neither prisms nor field lenses, only oculars and objectives, there are only eight reflecting surfaces, as shown in the illustration. Therefore, in an uncoated field glass, the light loss is small, and most of the light entering the objectives reaches the eyes —about 80 percent. When the eight surfaces are coated, about 15 percent more light is transmitted (a total of 92 percent). One manufacturer claims coating has increased the light transmission of his field glasses 50 percent. They must be remarkable glasses indeed to transmit 120 percent of the light entering the objectives! As a matter of fact, uncoated field glasses, because the glass parts are few and the objectives usually large, transmit plenty of light. The increase due to coating is unimportant.

The table gives the approximate increase in light transmission in various instruments due to coating. What it does not show is the other great advantage of coated optics—reduction of glare. In uncoated instruments, the multiple reflections produce what appears to be a haze inside the binocular. This causes indistinct vision, especially under brilliant lighting conditions. Coating eliminates this glare, the degree to which it does so depending on the number of surfaces processed.

The question inevitably arises: If you want to know how much—or how little—a binocular is coated, how can you find out? This is not easy to answer. One thing you should never do is dismantle the binocular yourself to investigate, for you will not be able to reassemble and realign it properly. Nor can you expect the concern from which you obtained it to do so. If you want the glass checked, send it to an expert qualified to handle it—but don't attempt it yourself.

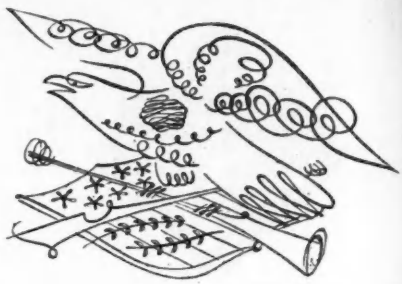
What you can and should do is demand that the binocular carry a label stating the exact number of surfaces coated. Merely from the brand name you cannot draw definite conclusions—especially with Japanese binoculars. Glasses from Japan vary considerably, and a factory supplying 80-percent coated instruments in one shipment may send 20-percent coated—or perhaps 60-percent coated—in the next. The importer himself cannot always be certain what the next shipment will bring, but surely it is up to him to examine what he receives and tell you precisely what he is shipping to you.

To some extent he can influence the factory in the matter of the number of optical surfaces that are coated. As a matter of fact, the general quality of any line of imported binoculars depends in part on the importer. Sincere efforts to induce a factory to better its products have been known to succeed.

So when you buy a coated binocular, demand a label stating *how many*—or, better yet, what percentage—of the optical surfaces have been processed. If enough buyers do this, the seller who gives you fully, or nearly fully, coated optics will have the sales advantage over others offering fewer coated surfaces, an advantage he assuredly deserves. And, sooner or later, these others will have to follow suit. Eventually the words 'coated binocular' may again mean for French and Japanese as well as for American and German binoculars, fully—or at least 80 percent—coated optics. ♣ ♣ ♣

Eyepiece system:	Total glass-air optical surfaces	Coated surfaces	Percentage of light transmitted:		Increase in amount of light transmitted due to coating
			Uncoated	Coated	
American (Kellner	20	20	55	78	42
American Erfle)	24	24	46	73.5	60
German (Kellner	20	16	55	73.5	34
German Erfle)	24	20	46	69	50
French (Kellner)	20	8–20	55	64–78	17–42
Japanese (Kellner	20	4–20	55	59.5–78	8–42
Japanese Erfle)	24	4–24	46	50.5–73.5	10–60
Field Glasses (non-prismatic)	8	8	82	91	11

Details of NRA Basic Training Program



AS ALREADY REPORTED in the RIFLEMAN (editorial, October; page 34, November) the National Rifle Association has initiated a program of civilian marksmanship training as the major element of its contribution to national rearmament. Already, applications have been received from NRA-affiliated clubs in twelve states, despite the fact that little has been said up to now of actual operating details.

In its essentials, the NRA's 1950 plan for civilian small-arms training follows closely the time-tried and highly successful program carried out between 1942 and 1945. During those war years 1¾-million Americans received NRA-sponsored or NRA-staffed marksmanship training. The major difference this time is one of intent rather than of operating detail. In order to make its program of value to the nation under any circumstances, the program must have its place in a nation engaged in hot, cold, or "lukewarm" war, or intent upon the pursuits of peace. Fortunately, the same training which will make a man more valuable to his country in time of national emergency will also make him a better, safer, and more responsible citizen-sportsman. For the NRA-affiliated club, the plan is a "made-to-order" promotional program, certain to attract new members and to increase local interest in shooting.

Here, from the NRA's booklet outlining the plan, are the details of the program for basic small-arms training and instructor certification. (All material sent out to date is for rifle training. Supplies for handgun instruction will be available about January 1.)

The purpose of the National Rifle Association plan to provide basic small-arms training for civilians is threefold:

1) To provide a means whereby citizens who are interested in small-arms training may be assured of such training through the guidance of competent, responsible instructors;

2) To provide standard courses of instruction based on accepted training methods, so that citizens given basic training as civilians will be better prepared to render services in defense of our nation in the armed forces, auxiliary police or home guard organizations, or as individuals;

3) To provide a method of training, grading and certifying properly qualified civilian small-arms instructors as a continuing contribution to the national defense and public safety.

The benefits to be derived from such a program fall into three groups:

1) The sponsor of an NRA Basic Training School may logically expect new members to join the organization and its prestige in the community will be materially improved as a result of these activities. This will afford opportunities for providing better range facilities;

2) The instructor gains improved knowledge of proper instruction resulting from the use of approved methods in the school and the personal satisfaction of helping others;

3) The student receives training in the safe and efficient use of firearms. This training will help him to be a better shooter, a better hunter, and to be better prepared to defend his life if necessary.

Basic Training Schools: During wartime the American people awaken to their ignorance regarding firearms. People who thought 'guns are dangerous' and 'civilians do not need guns' become keenly interested in learning something about firearms. This interest should be maintained at all times. The NRA plan for basic small-arms training schools affords all citizens an opportunity to obtain such training through the guidance of qualified instructors.

Certified Instructors: A good marksman is not necessarily a good instructor. Men must be trained to teach after they have been trained to shoot. Men possess varying degrees of experience and ability as instructors just as they vary in shooting ability. The National Rifle Association has long classified shooters on a nation-wide basis. As a part of the plan for approved small-arms training it is obviously necessary to establish nationally recognized standards for instructors.

Certified instructors are required to be active members of the NRA. This is necessary because a fully-qualified instructor must at all times remain abreast of developments in arms, ammunition, training accessories and methods, rules and regulations. This can only be accomplished by regular reading of the AMERICAN RIFLEMAN and the special bulletins issued from time to time to active members of the Association.

Certificates will be issued only to citizens of the United States who are willing to take oath that they are not members of any organization which has among its aims or purposes the overthrow of the government of the United States, or any of the political subdivisions thereof, by force or violence, or the encouragement of mutiny or sedition in the armed forces of the United States or the several States.

Approved Schools: The National Rifle Association will approve the following schools provided the applicant meets the requirements:

1) NRA Basic Rifle Training School
2) NRA Basic Pistol Training School

A formal application must be submitted in order to obtain approval for each rifle or pistol school. These forms may be obtained from the National Rifle Association upon request. A remittance of $5.00 must accompany each application and will entitle the sponsor to the following materials:

2 school organization pamphlets
4 basic instruction manuals
1 set of instruction charts
1 progress chart
5 instructor's reports
20 registration cards
20 final written examinations
20 attendance certificates

Additional instruction manuals, wall charts, school registration cards and other forms are available at nominal cost.

Who May Conduct Approved Schools: NRA Basic Small-Arms Training Schools may be conducted by any group of NRA members (individually or as an organization) having the experience, equipment, and range facilities required by the Association. Each application will *(Continued on page 50)*

the quality of JAP rifles

By Lt. Leroy A. Morgan, Jr.

FROM TIME TO TIME I see notes and enquiries about Jap rifles in the RIFLEMAN. Perhaps I can give some information of interest on the subject. While my dope is far from complete, it will at least give the reader the benefit of some observation in a former major Japanese arsenal, and interviews with former arsenal employees and two Japanese former ordnance officers.

Japanese rifles can be divided into four classes. A simple guide to the quality of the piece according to my Japanese former arsenal workers is the finish of the piece. The *first class*—and the best—includes the model 38 in 6.5 mm. and early model 99 rifles in 7.7 mm. The model 38 in 6.5 mm. is almost always a good bet for rechambering for a short load like the .257 Roberts or .35 Remington. I've never gotten around to checking a model 38 rechambered for the .30-'06, but they were proofed to a metric equivalent of about 75,000 pounds per square inch. The finish is smooth, almost commercial, and the bluing is good.

Early model 99 rifles in 7.7 mm. bear the same finish and attention to detail that the 6.5s show. These pieces are very strong with receivers which give a Rockwell reading of about 62C. They can be rechambered for .30-'06, and one I had would give better results on the range than I could get out of an M1. The addition of an adjustable trigger and a scope may have been in part responsible for this.

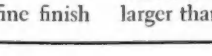
The *second class* of 7.7 rifle does not have the fine finish found on earlier models, which generally indicates that standards had been dropped somewhat. The piece bears the model 99 stamp and has a leaf sight. It is also a good strong piece. It may have a wing on each side of the sight leaf—no one knows why—and a wire bipod folding behind the lower band.

The *third class* has a finish that looks like an axe had been used as a lathe bit and a very rough stock. The upper tang is a rough stamping. It may have leaf sight or a simple peep screwed on the barrel. It still carries the model 99 stamp. These models are the first which must be watched closely. According to an officer who supervised the heat-treating of receivers in the Kokura arsenal, and another who did the same thing at Osaka, these pieces were heat-treated by guess. Some of them are fine, others are dangerous. The officers stated that many of these pieces failed in proofing.

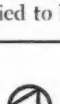
The *fourth class* was similarly heat-treated. It has only the Emperor's seal on the receiver and no model 99 beneath it. The rear sight is often welded on. The stock is a two-piece affair with the forestock joining inside the lower band. The upper band is a rough, welded job and is held on permanently with a rivet. The bolt handle is usually cylindrical. The safety shows signs of welding. This model is a sad apple.

I rechambered one of these without removing the barrel, which is bad practice since the base of the 7.7 cartridge is larger than the base of the .30-'06, and tried to blow the thing

Emperor's seal of 16-leaf chrysanthemum found on top of receiver above gas port on all rifles made for the Imperial Japanese forces. It was ground off surrendered pieces but is still on captured guns



These marks, meaning "99 model" are found on earlier 7.7-mm. rifles below the Imperial seal. 7.7 rifles with rough finishes which do not have this stamp are not to be trusted with .30-'06



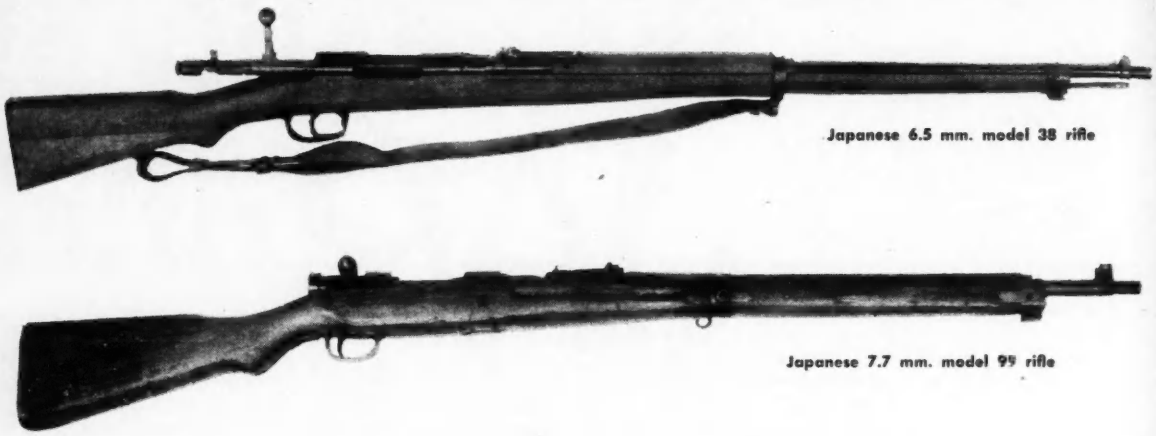
As near as can be learned, this is an ordnance proof mark found on receiver bridge and top of barrel. It indicates the piece has been proofed with a load developing pressures 30 percent in excess of anything likely to be developed under even abnormal field conditions

These marks, meaning "38 model" are found below Imperial seal on some 6.5-mm. rifles. There is also a 6.5-mm. rifle built on a Mannlicher plan which is very similar to the Italian Mannlicher Carcano

Japanese ordnance stamp found which follows serial number on left side of the receiver. It seems to be on rifles made at arsenals in Tokyo, Osaka, and Kokura though it does not denote the arsenal

An arsenal stamp usually found on bayonets and occasionally on firearms. Its meaning is unknown

This mark is found on bolts and receivers of model 38s and early model 99s. Its meaning is unknown, except that only the better pieces seem to have it



Japanese 6.5 mm. model 38 rifle

Japanese 7.7 mm. model 99 rifle

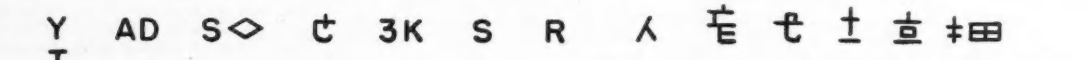
up. I crammed all the 4895 I could get into a Denver arsenal case, jammed a 220-grain Krag bullet on top and touched the load off with a long string. I fired four of these loads and all showed signs of excessive pressure but the rifle held together. Then I pulled the same deal that Remington pulled on the 721—put a bullet in the barrel and loaded a standard AP cartridge behind it. Nothing spectacular happened. Then I jammed two slugs in the barrel and let her go. The breech froze closed and I haven't gotten it open yet. Just to make sure that my pressures were high when the test was run, I had left the gun and proof loads in the noonday sun for an hour before firing the thing, and when I loaded the piece all were uncomfortable to handle. *(Do not accept this incident as proof that all Jap rifles, no matter of what class, are safe. The heat-treatment given Jap actions was not uniform, and failures have occurred with rifles of every class.—Ed.)*

The *last class* of Jap rifle is the booby trap with the cast receiver. The people who made these say that they were never intended to be fired. They were made out of cull parts, often with barrels unrifled, and were frequently stocked with supplies of old 6.5-mm. stocks. They were intended as drill rifles for school boys.

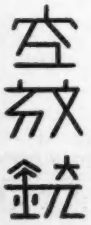
With this article is a list of the markings on Japanese rifles that I have been able to dope out. It is interesting to note that many of the operations in the manufacture of Japanese rifles were done by people who stated, "When the needle went up to a certain point, I don't know what it was, I pulled the rack out of the oven and gave it to the man next to me", or words to that effect.

One old metallurgist, educated at Heidelberg nearly half a century ago, who was employed at Yahata Steel (the Pittsburgh of the Orient), told me that the steels that went into rifle receiver blanks during 1942 and early 1943 were, in his opinion, the best steels for the purpose in the world. He said the Japanese were getting nickel, chrome, and manganese ores from occupied countries and they didn't hesitate to use them in small arms.

The 6.5-mm. rifle built on a Mannlicher plan similar to the Italian Mannlicher Carcano (see "Arisaka Ancestry" by Lt. Comm. M. K. Short, Nov. 1946, page 27) I believe to be an earlier model than the old model 38, which comes with barrels up to 32 inches. I have no facts to back this up. The proofmarks on it are those common to the very earliest of the European-made model 38s, including the 'O' on bolt and receiver. I have made no tests on this piece. They are comparatively rare and seem to bear mostly low serial numbers. The only two I have had an opportunity to examine in detail bore numbers below 1000. They are well fitted and well finished. The firing pin does not rebound after discharge but waits for the upswing of the bolt to retract it. The piece cocks on closing. The safety is simply the grasping of the hooked cocking piece and rotating and lowering the entire striker to the half-cock notch. ♦ ♦ ♦



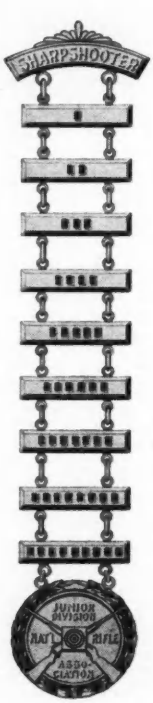
These numbers, letters, and characters, found on bottom of barrel just in front of the receiver, are common to those model 38 6.5-mm. rifles made in Europe, probably in Czech arsenals, and indicate some of the best pieces of Japanese ordnance



The 6.5 Mannlicher type rifle similar to the Italian Carcano bears on the top of the receiver by the gas port the characters at left. These pieces are well finished and rifled. The stocks are of better material than those on the model 38 or the model 99. The 16-leaf posy is not present on these weapons as it is on the others. The author reports that, while he has let these rifles alone, he has known people who have successfully fired a great deal of Jap army 6.5 ammunition through them

In addition to the "Ballantines Ale" marking shown on previous page, this stamp is also found in the same relative position and has the same meaning. It is common to older weapons

New Junior Qualifications



IT IS NO LONGER necessary to look down on the "air rifle" as a weapon useful in teaching youngsters the principles of firearms safety. In a new and perhaps final expansion of the NRA's already-broad junior qualification program, the "lowly" air rifle has been recognized on its own merits and brought into the family. From now on it will be possible for the young shooter to win that coveted qualification medal with almost any weapon at hand—standard .22 rimfire, compressed-air or gas rifle, and now, spring-type "air rifle."

Since 1925 the NRA Junior Qualification Program has been built around a series of qualification courses which give youngsters a chance to earn nationally-recognized badges, brassards, certificates, and lapel pins. Boys and girls under 19 years of age start with prone firing for the Pro-Marksman award, work their way through thirteen additional and progressively more difficult stages, and wind up with four-position firing for the junior Distinguished Marksman rating. Until last Spring, all of this firing was done with regular rimfire .22's at the standard range of 50 feet, using the regulation 50-foot target. Although relatively easy at the beginning, any youngster who has earned the top ratings of Expert or Distinguished Rifleman has acquired real skill. A great many of today's top tournament riflemen have graduated from the junior ranks.

These qualifications have been largely responsible for the popularity of the NRA junior program—proven by the 2,500,000 qualifications earned during the past 25 years. Schools, Boy Scout groups, civic clubs, veterans' organizations, and many senior rifle clubs have provided a place for boys and girls to shoot and have provided instructors to teach and supervise them.

Several years ago it became obvious that many more youngsters could take part in the Junior Qualification Program if lower-powered guns and shorter ranges could be used. After careful testing by members of the NRA staff and the Association's Junior Activities Committee, expansion of the Junior Qualification Program was approved by the Executive Committee in February 1949 to provide for the firing of these qualification courses at 25 feet, using .22 CB and BB caps, or pneumatic-type pellet guns powered by either air or liquid carbon dioxide (CO_2). At 25 feet the average grouping of CB, BB, CO_2 and pneumatic-type air guns compares well with that of .22 short and long rifle ammunition on the same target at 50 feet. Therefore, the same qualification scores required in 50-foot firing apply for the 25-foot shooting. For safety reasons neither long rifle nor .22-caliber shorts may be used at 25 feet.

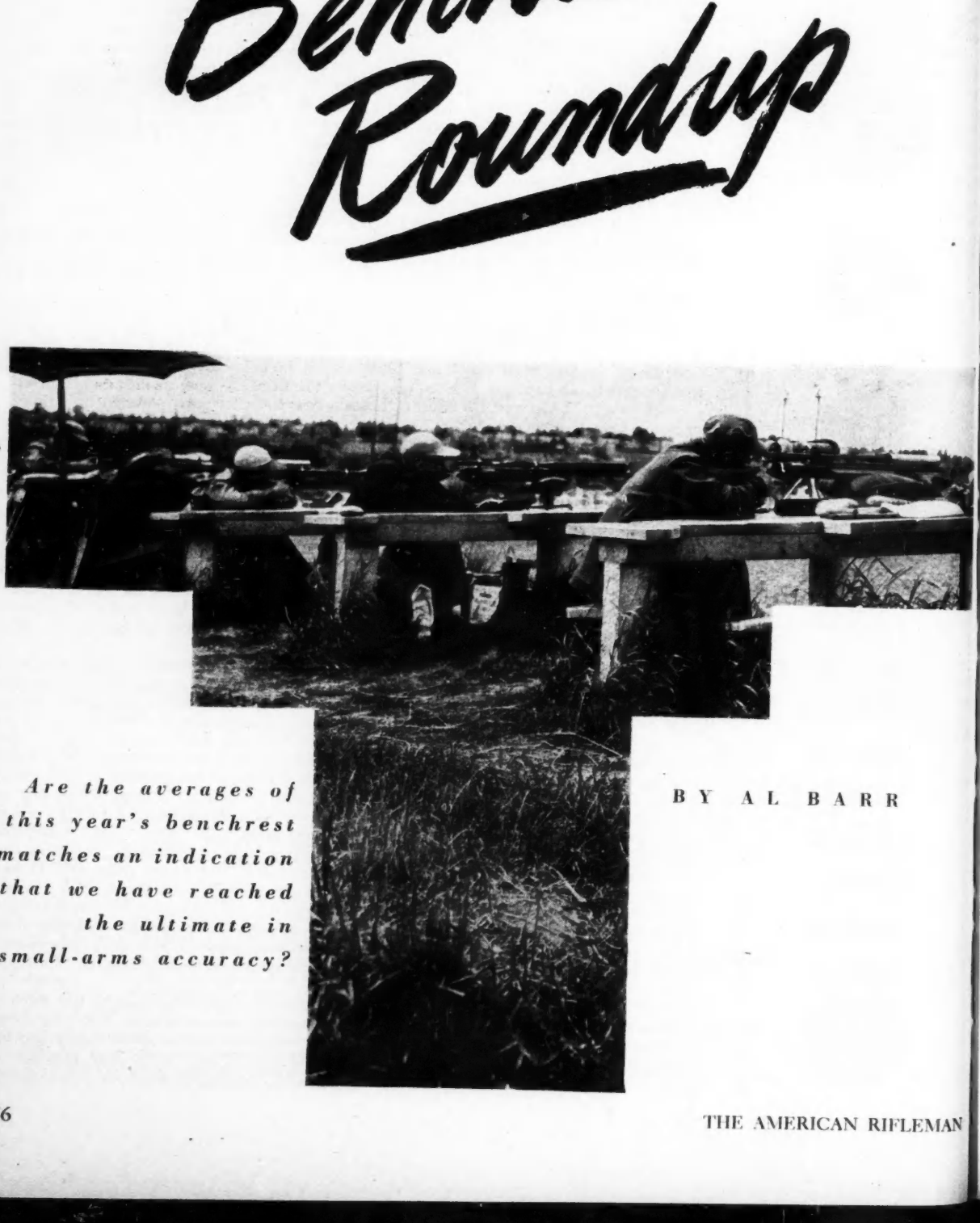
The latest expansion of this program recognizes the fact that many youngsters have a spring-type "air rifle," but do not have a "twenty-two." Often this is because parents fail to realize that even such a low-powered gun requires the same training and safety consciousness as a "real .22." Lack of training among youngsters using air rifles, and lack of anything of value for them to shoot for, has made the promiscuous use of BB guns a community problem in many localities. Street lights, windows, birds, and the family cat are common targets. Lack of safety instruction—the primary part of any good marksmanship course—has been the direct cause of many an "accident."

Recognizing that the correction of these shortcomings is a responsibility which the NRA and its members should accept, experimenting and testing was undertaken to ascertain whether the Junior Qualification Program could be further expanded to include spring-type "air rifles." After much experimental firing it was demonstrated that the average air rifle will group at 15 feet with sufficient accuracy to make qualification scores at that distance on the 50-yard smallbore target when the combined 9 and 10 rings of that target become the 10 ring for the air rifles. The remaining rings are renumbered 9, 8, 7, etc.

As a consequence, on October 7, 1950, during the Executive Committee meeting in San Francisco, the Junior Qualification Program was again expanded, this time to permit qualification with air guns at 15 feet on the 50-yard smallbore target. Any spring-type "air rifle" may be used. Firing positions and other general qualification regulations as they govern the 50- and 25-foot firing also apply to the 15-foot firing. The new 15-foot targets are available from the National Target Company, 1255 25th Street, NW, Washington, D. C. and from Wisler Western Target Company, 63 Second Street, San Francisco, California. Due to their size, only single-bullseye targets will be printed and five shots should be fired on each. Future editions of NRA literature will include the 15-foot course, but this article is the formal announcement of the expanded program. Firing of the course with air rifles can start at any time.

Each NRA junior member or member of a junior rifle club affiliated with the NRA is given a copy of the NRA Junior Rifle Handbook at the time he joins. This is a safety and marksmanship instruction book, carrying also a complete outline of the regulations for qualification shooting. Anyone wishing a copy of this 48-page book may purchase it from the NRA, (1600 Rhode Island Avenue, NW, Washington 6, D. C.) for 25 cents.

Benchrest Roundup



Are the averages of this year's benchrest matches an indication that we have reached the ultimate in small-arms accuracy?

BY AL BARR

No type of shooting has created more interest in a short time than has the benchrest game. A few years ago only a small number of local shoots was held. Now we get reports from all parts of the country, and the older annual events are attracting more and more participants. With the game growing and more shoots being held, and with generally better equipment, it is not unexpected that new records have been set this year. Several record groups were made during 1950, although comparing averages over those obtained last year at some of the outstanding shoots, we find that there is not a great deal of difference. Occasionally a phenomenally small group will be made, but averages indicate that the smallest groups are quite often freaks.

The smallest 100-yard 5-shot group made last year, which was turned in by Clair Taylor of Rixford, Pa., still stands as far as we know. This fine group measures .056 inch center to center. The .399-inch 5-shot group at 200 yards, made last year by Frank Riddle, Oil City, Pa., has been bettered by a .365-inch group shot by Bill D. Guse, Del Rio, Texas, in matches held for the first time at Midland-Odessa, Texas, in May of 1950. As far as 10-shot records go, nearly everyone has been trying to better the 200-yard group fired years ago by C. W. Rowland, which measured 13/16 inch. At DuBois, Pennsylvania in May of this year, Jack H. Snyder of Martinsburg, West Virginia, using a .219 Donaldson, turned in a 10-shot group which measures .717 inch center to center. Curiously, this was the only 10-shot group fired by Snyder in the 200-yard DuBois matches. It was fired in competition. We have also seen a photo of a 10-shot 200-yard group which measures .336 inch, center to center, which was fired by Clyde Holdt in California.

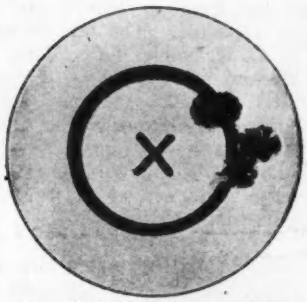
At the DuBois matches this year Samuel Clark, Jr., Oakland, Maine, fired a 5-shot group at 300 meters which measures .565 inch center to center. Out in San Diego, California, Paul Dinant shot what is probably the smallest 5-shot 100-yard group made with a .25-caliber rifle. It measures .091 inch center to center. Interesting to note is the fact that Samuel Clark, Jr., used the .25-caliber Donaldson Ace in making his 300-meter group. The 10-shot 200-yard group made by Snyder was with a .219 Donaldson. The 5-shot 200-yard group by Bill Guse was shot with a .22-250 rifle weighing less than 12 pounds. Another phenomenal group fired at 312 yards by Al Hoyer, Yeagertown, Pa., measures .438 inch, with a .250 cartridge of his own design.

When Jack Snyder made his record 200-yard 10-shot group he was firing the same fine rifle that Clair Taylor used last year to make his .056-inch group at 100 yards. The barrel of this rifle is by Gregoire. The 5-shot 200-yard group made by Bill Guse was also from a Gregoire barrel, using 30 grains of duPont 3031 powder and a 50-grain Sierra Bullet. The .336-inch group made by Clyde Holdt was the product of a shortened .220 Krag cartridge called the .224-PR. His load was 30 grains of duPont 4064 with 55-grain Sierra bullets. A Pfeifer barrel was used. The .091-inch group made by Paul Dinant at 100 yards was the off-spring of a Pfeifer barrel and the straight .250-3000 Savage case. An 86-grain bullet made in Banta bullet dies was used with 32 grains of duPont 4895. Sam Clark used a Douglas barrel for his 300-meter group.

If we disregard these more-or-less freak groups, results this year are surprisingly comparable to those of last year and a year or two before. Averages for 5- and 10-shot groups have not to our knowledge been bettered, except for a report of an average for 100 yards made recently in Reading, Massachusetts which was less than .40 inch. The best average last year reported for eight consecutive groups at 100 yards was .412, made by Frank Riddle.

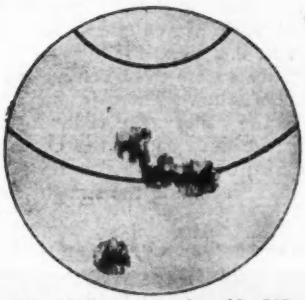
Over Memorial Day the DuBois Rifle and Pistol Club held their third annual Memorial Day bench-rest shoot, attracting a registration of 105 shooters compared with the 60 of last year. The best 100-yard average for this year's shoot was .44 inch for seven groups. G. B. Southard, Sussex, N. J., did the shooting. The best 200-yard average at the same shoot for eight groups was made by Joe Rich, Bradford, Pa. The average was 1.095 inches.

On the West Coast the third largest shoot of the year was held by the Western Benchrest Shooting Association in Seattle, on June 24 and 25. This is their seventh annual match. Last year about 24 competitors were attracted to the matches as compared with 43 this year. In the 1949 Seattle matches the best 100-yard aggregate was made by Roger Baker, and for 50 shots it was .779 inch. At 200 yards the best aggregate for 50 shots was by Bill Kiser, Chehalis, Wash., for an average of 1.356 inches. This year the best aggregate for 100 yards was Kiser's, with an average of .4862 inch. The 200-yard aggregate for 20 shots this year was 1.115 inches made by Don Robbins, Rixford, Pa.



This 5-shot 200-yard group, shown in its actual size, measures .365-inch. It was made by Bill D. Guse of Del Rio, Texas, with a 12-pound .22-250

This 10-shot 200-yard group, fired by Jack Snyder in May, betters the famed Charles W. Rowland group. It measures .717-inch center to center



Sam Clark, Jr., turned in this .565-inch group at 300 meters, using a .25-caliber Donaldson Ace rifle

In Texas, where the first annual Permian Basin Benchrest Tournament was held on May 6 and 7, 1950, fourteen shooters were attracted. The best 5-shot 100-yard average was made by C. R. Noble, Tulsa, Okla. It was .782 inch. The best 200-yard average for five groups was 1.51 inches made by Bill D. Guse. It is interesting to note this average, as Guse is the one who made the phenomenal .365-inch group for five shots at 200 yards.

So far as last year's stars are concerned, there are no real repeat winners. The nearest to it is Don Robbins, who made a fine showing at DuBois in 1949 and a better one at Johnstown, N. Y., over Labor Day of last year, where he won the grand aggregate. Again this year at the Seattle matches he won the 200-yard aggregate and also the grand aggregate for both 100- and 200-yard shooting.

Of the many other local shoots held this year for the first time, complete records are not available for comparison. The York Rifle Club of York, Pennsylvania, held a match on May 14 and 24 shooters were present. The best 100-yard average for four groups there was .556 inch, made by Tom Selway, Baltimore, Md. At 200 yards the best average for the same number of groups was 1.231 inches, made by R. C. Hoydt, Reading, Pa.

Complete statistics on equipment was sent in time only by the sponsors of the Western Benchrest Shoot, held at Seattle. It is interesting to note that on the West Coast the .22-250 is still one of the most popular cartridges. In 1950, twenty-two shooters used this caliber as compared with 14 Wasps, several Swifts and a Wilson Arrow, plus several other wildcats. Bill Kiser, who won the 200-yard aggregate last year with a lightweight .22-250, took the 100-yard aggregate again this year using a barrel of the same caliber made by Ralph Pride. Robbins, who took the 200-yard aggregate and the grand aggregate, was using a Gregoire barrel. At the Seattle matches 29 shooters used Sierra bullets, 13 used RCBS bullets and for powder, twenty used duPont 4895, thirteen used 3031, eleven used 4320, five used 4198, one used 4064 and one used 4859.

The .22 calibers seem to be holding their own and winning most of the matches. There is, however, considerable interest in the .25 caliber, especially for 200 yards and 300 meters. On the third day of the DuBois matches this year 46 shooters tried out in the 300-meter matches. Quite a few .25-caliber rifles, including the straight .250 Savage, the .250 Donaldson and the .250 Ace, made a fair showing. The 10-group high aggregate made at that range was with a .250 Ace Douglas barrel. Fired by Gene Hudgins, Philadelphia, Pa., the average was 2.287 inches. Second high aggregate was made by D. E. Barr, Medix Run, Pa., using a straight .220 Swift. The average was 2.295 inches. For sighting equipment the trend seems to be toward the higher-powered scopes and it is not uncommon to see shooters using 15-, 20- and even 25-power scopes.

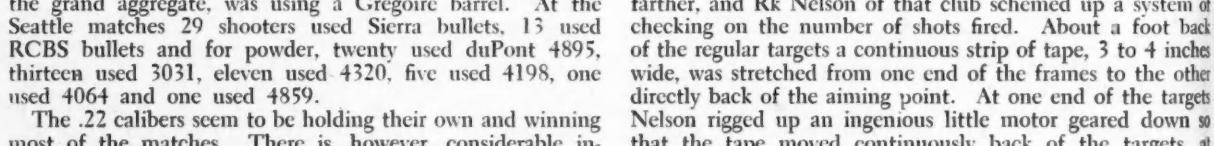
Considerable interest has been shown this year in heavy, oversize laminated stocks, which many bench-rest shooters are using in an effort to eliminate stock warpage. A number of these stocks were seen at DuBois this year.

Stock bedding remains one of the great problems for the bench-rest shooter. A number of shooters have gone so far as to cut the stock off just forward of the receiver and then rest the barrel on a sandbag. In fact, that was the method used by Paul Dinant when he shot that fine .25-caliber group and at the same time fired two others in consecutive order measuring .198 inch and .483 inch. In another match held in Sacramento, California sometime ago R. W. Christy, Sacramento, Calif., who now specializes in fine benchrest barrels, used one of his own in .25 caliber to win with a .265-inch group. He, too, was using a rifle having a stock but no forearm. One of the favorites to be used in this manner is the strong German military stock, which is made up of thin strips of wood laminated together.

As groups become smaller some of the clubs holding bench-rest matches have recognized the necessity of some form of backing target to check on the number of shots fired, especially when they literally go into one hole. At the York matches this year regular backing targets were used and it was easy to check on crossfires. The DuBois Rifle Club went farther, and Rk Nelson of that club schemed up a system of checking on the number of shots fired. About a foot back of the regular targets a continuous strip of tape, 3 to 4 inches wide, was stretched from one end of the frames to the other directly back of the aiming point. At one end of the targets Nelson rigged up an ingenious little motor geared down so that the tape moved continuously back of the targets, at approximately 11 inches per hour.

RIFLEMAN writer Elmer Keith attended the Western Benchrest events at Seattle this year and seemed much impressed with the growing interest in the game. Elmer reports

Every possible combination is tried in order to minimize outside influences on the rifle. Here John Collins of Rochester rests his rifle on a scrub brush



that at Seattle both rifles and scopes were 'unlimited' and some scopes were of as much as 30 power. Further, some rifles were very heavy—one weighing 27 pounds. This monster was used by Roy Meister of Seattle, and was chambered for the .219 Donaldson. At many of the matches a maximum of 20 pounds is imposed.

The largest benchrest match of the year was held at Johnstown, N. Y., on September 2, 3 and 4. Approximately 120 shooters were registered and the beautiful range, rebuilt by the bench-rest shooters of the Pine Tree Rifle Club, Inc., now has twenty benches at both 100 and 200 yards. This was a very interesting three-day shoot, bringing shooters all of the way from the West Coast. One of the top shooters from the Coast who attended the matches was Bill Kiser, who still sticks by his .22-250 rifle and did well with it. The smallest 10-shot group fired in competition of which we have record was made by Kiser in one of the 100-yard 10-shot group matches. The measurement was .372 inch center to center. Kiser was the number ten money winner in the Johnstown matches.

Of the first fifteen money winners at Johnstown at least nine used the .219 Donaldson or .219 Wasp cartridge. Interesting is the fact that the first place winner, well ahead of everyone else, used a shortened .220 Swift case. The case is approximately 1.7 inches long and it was used in a Mauser rifle with a Diller barrel having a 14-inch twist. The shooter, who made the gun for himself, was Cline Deere, of Washington Court House, Ohio. Deere took the combined first and second day group averages or aggregates at 100 and 200 yards, plus a number of first places and the first day group aggregate at 100 yards, consisting of five 5-shot groups and five 10-shot groups. The average for all this shooting on this particular day was .465 inch. That kind of shooting is one of the reasons why my 10-shot group measuring .478 inch gave me only third place in a match!

After mentioning the fine shooting done by Jack Snyder of Martinsburg, West Virginia when he made the smallest 10-shot group on record, as far as we know, in a match at the DuBois, Pennsylvania shoot over Memorial Day this year, it is interesting to note that he again used the same phenomenal rifle built by Clair Taylor and again placed second in the money-winning column at Johnstown. Snyder was using the .219 Donaldson cartridge and a Gregoire barrel with the 55-grain Sierra spitzer bullet ahead of 26 grains of duPont 3031. Cline Deere, who used the short Swift case, was loading 27 grains of 4895 with bullets of his own make.

Third place in the money-winning column was taken by Mike Walker of Remington Arms Company, who fired the new and extremely accurate 222 Remington cartridge in a barrel of his own make fitted to a Remington 722 action. The smallest group made at Johnstown at 100 yards was fired with this 222 Remington in the hands of Walker. The 5 shots, center to center, measured .161 inch.

For those interested in the 222 Remington cartridge, Walker was using the RCBS bullet and 21 grains of IMR 4198 powder at an estimated velocity of 3100 feet per second. The bullet used weighed 53.5 grains as made in the RCBS dies.

Fourth winner was D. E. Barr, who still swears by the .220 Swift. Using a 14-inch twist Gregorie barrel and his own make of RCBS bullets, he was loading 33 grains of duPont 3031, which he considers the best powder for the .220 Swift for fine accuracy. With this Swift cartridge Barr is usually well up in the aggregates. One of his smallest groups for a win measured .421 inch at 100 yards for 10 shots.

Lewis Edwall of Hamburg, N. J., was using a .22-250 rifle and placed ninth in the winning column. The rifle was fitted with an Ackley barrel, and the gunsmithing work was done by Roy Vail of Warwick, N. Y. The bullets used were

Paul Dinant of San Diego turned in a .091-inch group at 100 yards to ring up a record that should last

the Sierra round-nose 55 grain and 32 grains of 3031. By comparison Bill Kiser, who placed tenth with the .22-250, was using a Ralph Pride barrel and 55-grain RCBS bullets of his own make with a very hot load of 36 grains of 4895.

The money winners at Johnstown, down to the fifteenth place at least, seemed equally divided as to whether or not they used Sierra commercial bullets or bullets made in RCBS or similar bullet-making dies. It depended entirely on whether or not the individual rifle grouped best with the home-made variety or the Sierra. Among the first five winners Cline Deere used his own bullets, Jack Snyder, who was second, used 55-grain Sierra, M. H. Walker, in third place, used RCBS bullets of his own make, D. E. Barr, with the .220 Swift, used RCBS bullets, and D. A. Robbins, in fifth place, used the 55-grain Sierra round nose.

The .25-caliber rifles are being used rather frequently when conditions get rough at the longer ranges. So far, however, the .25's plus the 6 mm., which is also seen in competition, do very well but they are still not outstanding as compared with the .22's. Progressive work, however, indicates that possibly the larger calibers are going to be outstanding one of these days. When as much development goes into the .25's and the 6 mm. or even larger calibers, as has gone into the .22's then possibly they will make a better showing.

It still seems that there are outstanding barrels, regardless of who makes them. The one used for the smallest 5-shot group on record at 100 yards, made by Clair Taylor last year, is the same rifle used by Jack Snyder for the smallest 10-shot groups on record, in competitive shooting at least, this year at DuBois. That rifle was still showing itself to be phenomenally accurate after firing 2600 rounds or more as indicated by Jack Snyder's win at Johnstown. There are other phenomenally accurate barrels, but it takes a fine combination to place consistently in these matches. Furthermore, it takes a combination of good holding and proper components for each individual rifle. It's an interesting game and one which undoubtedly will become even more popular than it is today. ◆ ◆ ◆

BASIC TRAINING

Continued from page 42

be considered on its merits. It is not necessary to have either a large range of long experience as a coach in order to secure approval. It is necessity that the school be set up under sincere and qualified instructors who will follow the plan laid down by the National Rifle Association so as to insure a good job being done within the limits of available time, equipment and experience and that the students be given the kind of instruction they are led to believe they will get.

Final Report: A final report must be filed with NRA headquarters at the conclusion of each course of instruction.

Special Awards: Official attendance certificates are available for issue to students who satisfactorily complete the school.

Students may fire NRA qualification courses and obtain the appropriate nationally recognized qualification insignia.

Instructors in such schools are given credit hours applying against the award of an NRA Instructor Certificate.

NRA Certified Instructors: Qualified instructors are an important requisite for a successful nation-wide small-arms training program. Many NRA members already have the necessary qualifications to obtain instructor certificates, while others need additional 'credits'. Those who are already qualified may apply immediately for the appropriate certificate. Active members who now hold instructor certificates may be issued new certificates without taking a written examination, provided other requirements are met. Applications for instructor certificates must be made on forms supplied by the Association and must be supported by such character and ability recommendations as may be required.

Instructor Certificates:

NRA Rifle or Pistol Marksmanship Instructor

NRA Assistant Rifle or Pistol Marksmanship Instructor

NRA Probationary Rifle or Pistol Marksmanship Instructor

Instructor Standards:

1) The NRA Marksmanship Instructor Certificate may be issued to an individual NRA member twenty-one years of age or older who has demonstrated that he has the practical experience, technical knowledge, personality and teaching ability to successfully organize, supervise and instruct a complete NRA Basic Small-Arms Training School. An applicant who has not already established and conducted a school of equal requirements will be required to:

a) Furnish evidence that he has satisfactorily completed a minimum of 100 hours of active instruction in an NRA Basic Small-Arms Training School or has had equivalent experience in an established marksmanship training program, and

b) Complete a written examination for marksmanship instructors. Answers must be forwarded to the National Rifle Association for review. The applicant must meet the grade requirements specified on the examination. There are separate examinations for rifle and pistol instructors.

2) The NRA Assistant Marksmanship Instructor certificate may be issued to an individual NRA member 18 years of age * or older who has demonstrated that he is capable of instructing others in the safe and efficient use of firearms. To do so, each applicant will be required to:

a) Furnish evidence that he has satisfactorily completed a minimum of 30 hours of active instruction in an NRA Basic Small-Arms Training School or has had equivalent experience as an instructor of an NRA affiliated rifle or pistol club or other established marksmanship training program, and

b) Furnish a certificate signed by an NRA rifle or pistol marksmanship instructor to the effect that the applicant has been thoroughly examined as to his general knowledge of marksmanship instruction methods of the NRA and is recommended, without reservations, as capable of carrying out the duties of an assistant marksmanship instructor, or:

If no NRA marksmanship instructor is available to examine the applicant personally, written answers to the NRA marksmanship instructor examination may be submitted to the National Rifle Association for review. By making the required grade on this examination, the applicant becomes eligible to receive the NRA Assistant Rifle or Pistol Marksmanship Instructor certificate.

3) The NRA Probationary Rifle or Pistol Marksmanship Instructor certificate may be issued to an individual NRA member 16 years of age * or older (junior members must also be subscribers to the AMERICAN RIFLEMAN) who has demonstrated that he is capable of instructing others in the safe and efficient use of firearms. These certificates expire on December 31st of each year, but may be renewed by application to the National Rifle Association. Each applicant for the NRA Probationary Marksmanship Instructor certificate must furnish evidence of his capabilities by complying with the following:

a) Submitting a written recommendation from an NRA member holding a valid Marksmanship or Assistant Marksmanship Instructor certificate, a member of the Executive Council or Board of Directors of the National Rifle Association, an active official referee of the Association, or such other qualified person as may be approved by the Association, and

b) Satisfactorily completing an NRA instructor training course and passing the final written examination.

Requirements and Withdrawals: An NRA certified instructor must at all times:

1) Cooperate wholeheartedly with the policies of the National Rifle Association with regard to safe range construction and management, organization of small-arms training schools and basic instruction methods, and

2) Conduct himself in a manner to bring increased public respect for rifle and pistol shooting, shooters, local clubs and the National Rifle Association, and

3) Establish and operate small-arms training schools and ranges only with such adequate facilities and instructors as to insure efficient, safe instruction for the students enrolled, and

4) Maintain his status as an active member of the Association.

Failure to comply with the above requirements to the best of his ability will result in suspension or cancellation of the instructor's certificate.

Instructor certificates (except probationary certificates) are issued for a period of three years. The certificate may be renewed upon application, provided the holder has been an active instructor during the preceding 18 months and is an active member of the NRA. A member whose instructor certificate is not renewed within twelve months of expiration must meet the requirements of an original certificate.

The adoption of this new training plan by the NRA has one effect that will be far reaching among holders of NRA instructor's certificates. All such certificates of previously-issued types will be changed over so that their holders may take part in the new program. If you are already qualified by the NRA as a small-arms instructor of any kind, write for an application blank for a new certificate. It will generally not be necessary to qualify over again as an instructor. The "grade" of instructor's certificate issued (instructor, assistant instructor, probationary instructor) will depend upon your exact qualifications as indicated on the application. ● ● ●

* Note: An applicant for the Assistant or Probationary Instructor certificate must be eligible under and comply with requirements of any state law pertaining to the possession and use of the appropriate firearm.

Leatherneck sniper Fred Tees, photographed near a Han River bridge in Korea. Department of Defense photo

1950 SNIPER—1903 RIFLE

THIS COMBAT PHOTO and a couple of personal battle accounts which filtered out of Korea as UN troops moved northward toward the Manchurian border provide 1950 evidence that 1) the rifleman is still with us, and 2) the 47-year-old Springfield is still the preferred rifle for long-range accuracy.

The young warrior in the picture is Lieutenant Fred J. Tees of Canal Town, Pennsylvania. A member of the 1st Marine Division, he was engrossed in taking pot shots at Red troops near a Han River bridge when the cameraman caught him. His sniping equipment includes the old reliable 1903 Springfield bolt-action rifle, on which is mounted a Unertl 8-power scope, a pair of field glasses for scanning enemy lines, and a revolver. His comfortable sitting-kneeling position, the attitude of professional concentration, and the spent brass beside him all say more for good marksmanship training than space here allows.

Another Marine similarly armed scrutinized the rubble-strewn streets of Seoul from an observation spot not far from the bridge where Lieutenant Tees was operating. Through his scope he stopped a Communist soldier. The Marine stretched out, set his sights meticulously, took a breath, sighted and held carefully, and squeezed the trigger. The enemy dropped with a bullet in his chest, 750 yards away! Corporal Gerard Pendas, Jr., Albany, N.Y., worked his bolt expertly and resumed his spotting.

On another occasion a group of Marines was riding a tank along the Inchon-Seoul highway when one of them glimpsed enemy movements along a distant ridge. A sniper in the group dismounted, and through his scope found two North Korean soldiers outlined against the sky.

"I cut loose on the man on the left," the Leatherneck stated afterward, "but in my haste I must have put on the wrong windage because the man on the right was knocked down. I got the other one with the next shot, however."

Security restrictions prevent disclosure of details relating to the number of sniper rifles and scopes used by the 1st Marine Division. We are told only that the type of equipment described is issued from special stocks in the division at the discretion of the commanding general and his unit leaders. These items go to the men deemed most skilled in their use, and the picked snipers are detailed to organizations for special assignments. The meager reports available on their activities indicate that the 'hot shots' are fully upholding Marine traditions for this type of work.—LYMAN L. WOODMAN, MAJOR, USAF. ◆ ◆ ◆

Baby 22's OF OTHER DAYS

By Herschel C. Logan

1857 WILL LONG BE remembered as the year that marked one of the most important milestones in American arms progress . . . the advent of breech-loading weapons using metallic rimfire cartridges. It was in November of that year that Smith & Wesson placed in production their seven-shot tip-up barrel revolver. Daniel Wesson had invented the rimfire cartridge three years before, but it was only after his firm had purchased the patent of Rollin White, which provided for "chambers right through the cylinder" that the way was clear for production of the first S&W revolvers. This event precipitated a great rush of arms production. Gone was the carrying of powder and ball and the attendant inconvenience of loading. Here was a simple, convenient and clean method of arms loading—merely slide a cartridge into the chamber and the arm is ready for use. This fact alone contributed largely to the immediate popularity of early cartridge arms.

It was only natural that such a forward step in arms making would be capitalized upon by other firms. The story of these firms and how some of them were prevented by court action from infringing upon the Smith & Wesson held patent has been covered in a previous article (RIFLEMAN, January 1949) and will not be reviewed here. Due, no doubt, to the fact that their products did not offer too much competition to a seven-shot revolver, producers of single-shot pistols using the new rimfire cartridges were not molested.

During this period there came into vogue the unique arms which are the subject of this article . . . the tiny vest-pocket handguns of bygone days. Starting with single-shot weapons, these small arms were later produced in multi-shot and revolver types. It is in these three divisions that they will be discussed. In conducting a survey to secure data and to locate specimens, the following criterion was established . . . "Any single-shot, multi-shot, or revolving handgun of American manufacture; 4 inches or under in total length, .22 caliber only." The fact that an arm exceeded slightly the four-inch length was not considered as important as if the size of the frame, cylinder or other parts seemed to belong to arms of a larger classification. For instance, the well-known "My Friend" knuckle-duster falls under the stated length, but the size of its cylinder does not correspond to the minute cylinders to be found in the tiny ones included herein. Likewise, single-shot arms of 4½-inch over-all length, while referred to as vest-pocket arms, offer considerable contrast when laid down beside one of these little fellows.

Two things stand out as a result of this survey: 1) the favoritism shown for these tiny weapons by the ladies and, 2) the almost universal popularity of these diminutive arms today among gun collectors. The first is not really surprising, since they were manufactured largely to appeal to 'the weaker sex'. A perusal of the early ads for these midgets will verify this. Let a woman come into your gun-room even today and get a glimpse of the little ones. Immediately forgotten are the massive show pieces, the ornate flintlocks or the top rarities. Here is something she understands, a small arm which she invisions as a 'cute little protecting agent', suitable for her handbag, purse or coat pocket.

It is sometimes asked, "But of what use were such tiny guns?" To answer this we must turn back the pages of history and place these handguns in their proper enviroment. Then their place in the scheme of things becomes more apparent. Primarily they were for protection. Fitting neatly into a man's vest pocket or a lady's muff or handbag, they afforded a measure of security to the owner. In bygone days there was no street lighting as we know it today. Streets in the average town were, after sundown, dark and uninviting. Women were hesitant about venturing out alone at night. Neither did they like to go out armed with a large gun lest folks 'should talk'. But here was a tiny gun, easily concealed and yet with enough potency to cause anyone to think twice if it were suddenly brought into play. For the men it meant a convenient little item for any emergency which might require the services of a small persuader.

Much sport has been made of the shooting ability and accuracy of these miniature arms, mainly we suspect by those who have never made a serious effort to test them or who fail to take into consideration the fact that they were not made for regular target shooting but rather for close-range service. Of course no one expects these little .22-caliber arms to do the damage of their brothers in large calibers—but let the men stand up and be counted who would care to be the recipients of a .22 short at close range! No doubt these midgets have changed the mind of more than one man bent on molesting some lady fair. And they may have caused more than one card to fall out of the sleeve of the player across the table.

With a .22 CB cap or short penetrating an inch and a half to two inches of soft pine at short range, it become obvious that these were potent little weapons, and not just cap pistols. Too, it should be pointed out that the idea of what constituted adequate protection in other years is vastly different from our 1950 version. Many of the men and women of those early days considered themselves well armed with one or more of these little guns.

Only a few of these tiny arms were produced in sizeable quantity, and even they are becoming increasingly difficult to

find today, particularly in fine condition. Many are marked with the manufacturer's name, while others carry only a trade name, such as QUEEN, GEM, STAR VEST POCKET, etc. Others have no markings except for a series number and must therefore remain anonymous unless by diligent research their identity becomes known. Perhaps some day an authority will come up with a definite answer to this dilemma of unmarked arms which has so long plagued collectors. Until that time the writer offers this explanation for what it may be worth. It would seem possible that some of these unmarked arms were originally made up as salesmen's samples to get the reaction of the buying public before being placed into production. Others may have been made up for special distributors or even export. Then too, it may have been that some of these tiny unmarked arms found their way out the 'back door' of the various factories, as gifts of workers to friends and relatives.

So much for the background. Let us turn now to a more detailed description of the arms themselves.

Single-shot: The greatest number of varieties appears in this category (Group 1). For the most part they are of the side-swing barrel type. "Swinging laterally on vertical pin" is the way the patent office describes them. Grips are, as a general rule, of the birdshead type with some going to a more bulbous size than others. Steel frames are the exception. The majority will be encountered with brass frames. Now and then presentation models are found. With their nickeled, silver, or gold-plated engraved frames, and with pearl grips they have an eye appeal that is hard to resist.

These little arms are often referred to as derringers. This is quite erroneous. They are, as the names of some of them imply, "vest pocket" arms. True derringers are those of large bore (.41 caliber, etc.) and not these small arms using the .22 BB, CB or short rimfire cartridges.

One of the best known of the early side-swing group is the Allen. There are minor points of differences between the early unmarked specimens and those of later manufacture but they are of such slight consequence as to be overlooked by all but the most advanced collectors. E. Allen & Co. was the successor to the old firm of Allen & Wheelock and was active in Worcester, Massachusetts, from 1865 to 1871, at which time it was taken over by Forehend & Wadsworth. This latter firm also produced some of these little arms, using steel instead of brass for the frames.

Two other well-known firms making these small arms were J. M. Marlin of New Haven, Connecticut (1870-1881), and Hopkins & Allen of Norwich, Connecticut (1868-1915). The Hopkins & Allen vest-pocket pistol employed a steel frame while the Marlin had a brass frame.

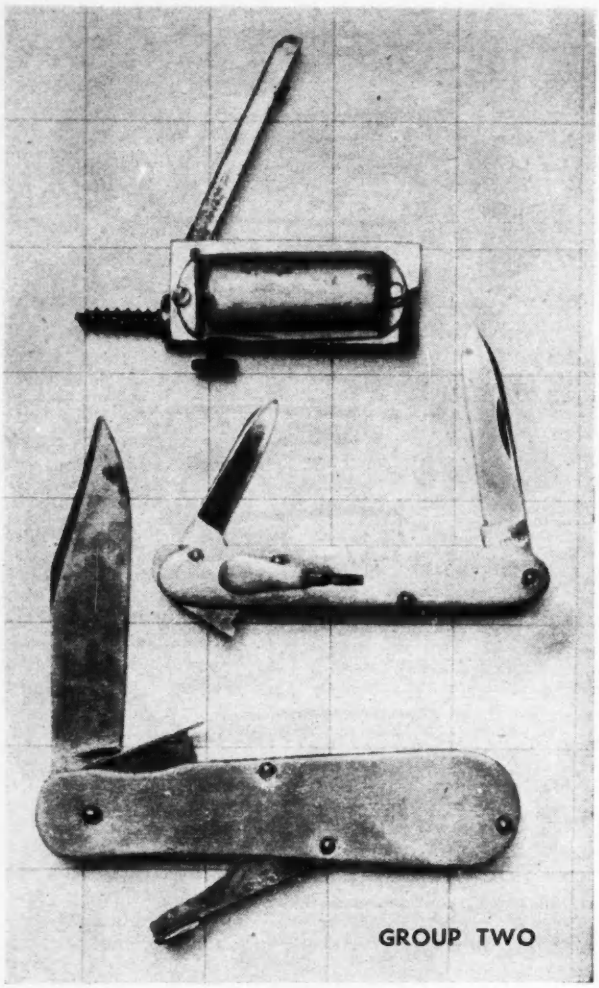
Most unusual of the early ones is the model produced by E. Remington & Sons, Ilion, New York. Its outstanding feature, in addition to the shape of its grip, is having its hammer serve as a breech-block. Instead of the hammer being pulled backward, as is the case on most of these arms, it is pulled downward. When it is released it flies up, indenting the rim of the cartridge on its top edge, the main part of the hammer then serving as a breech-block. This unique hammer operation was patented by William H. Elliott of Plattsburg, New York on October 1, 1861. Elliott, it will be recalled, designed several of the arms produced by Remington. Some of the unmarked specimens of this Remington vest-pocket arm are currently being referred to by a few individuals as rare Rider-made arms rather than as Remingtons. Nothing could be further from the truth, as anyone will realize who has taken the time to study the patent papers concerning these early Remingtons. Joseph Rider did secure a patent (No. 25470) for a single-shot percussion pistol. There is nothing however in this patent which could in any way be confused with the unusual hammer operation as covered in Elliott's patent (No. 33382). If any further proof that Remington did not purloin Rider's patent is needed, the patent paper itself will clear up that point. It states that the patent was assigned . . . "to himse f and E. Remington & Sons . . ." It is strange what stories men will concoct in attempting to fool other men, and thereby gain a few dollars on the selling price of an arm.

For its size the little Remington is quite accurate and pleasant to shoot. According to Charles Karr in his book, "Remington Handguns," it is estimated that around 25,000 of these vest-pocket arms were produced up to about 1888.

One unmarked specimen whose identity is believed to have

GROUP ONE

STAR VEST POCKET, early unmarked specimen
Unmarked
QUEEN
E. REMINGTON & SONS
E. ALLEN & CO., MAKERS
J. M. MARLIN
X L VEST POCKET
FOREHAND & WADSWORTH
NEWBURY
HOPKINS & ALLEN



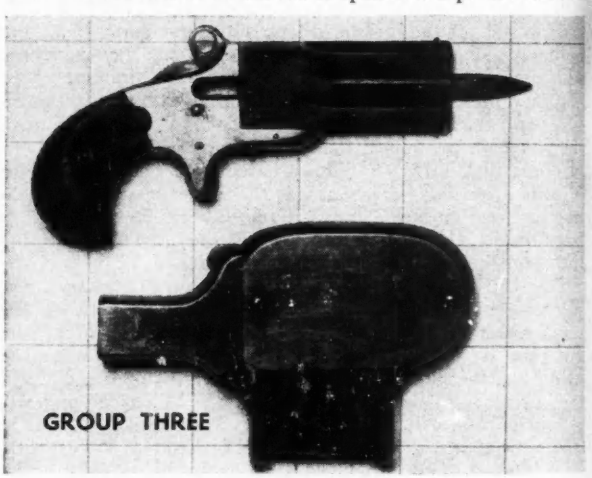
From top to bottom, REIFF & MC DOWELL burglar alarm pistol, DEFENDER and U. S. SMALL ARMS CO. knife pistols

been brought to light during this survey is the specimen labeled Newbury in the accompanying photograph (Group 1). A close study of the patent papers, taken out by F. D. Newbury on January 9, 1866, shows a striking similarity between the patent drawing and the actual arm. This in itself would not be conclusive, except that in this instance the descriptive copy explains that the illustration "represents in profile, a completed pistol." While it is true that W. Irving of New York produced a medium-sized single-shot pistol having a barrel of similar shape, the lines of the frame and western-type grips are different enough to eliminate any possibility of the Newbury being considered as an Irving. Thus the writer feels justified in designating this unmarked piece a Newbury until, and if, someone produces a fully marked identical piece proving it to have been produced by someone else.

One of the most interesting and, incidentally, one which is difficult to find today, is the Hopkins & Allen "New Model Vest Pocket." With its concealed hammer, its tip-down barrel and folding trigger it is a most unusual weapon in appearance.

Two others which, it is felt, fit into this study are combination or dual-purpose arms—also called knife pistols (Group 2). Two types are illustrated, one with two blades and a larger one with but a single blade. Succumbing to the appeal of an ad in a farm weekly, the writer purchased the little two-blade version around 1916. Its only identifying mark is the word DEFENDER on the large blade. Riding along dark country roads on a bicycle at night it proved its worth on more than one occasion in scaring off stray and unfriendly dogs. One considerably-used specimen of the larger type which was examined was observed to have the name of the maker, U. S. SMALL ARMS CO., CHICAGO, ILL. stamped on the side of the breech-block. Upon the top of the breech-block is the word PATENTED. Another identical specimen in virtually new condition was found to have no markings of any kind. Whether it is of earlier or later manufacturer is not known since these pieces seem to have no serial numbers such as are found on regular-type pistols.

The odd-looking piece at the top of this photograph, which shoots a .22-caliber blank, is included not because it is a pocket arm, but rather to illustrate a type of tiny alarm gun in use during the time of the little vest-pocket arms. This alarm gun was patented by Reiff & McDowell of Philadelphia on June 12, 1893. As in the case of other alarm guns this one is fastened, by means of a screw, to a door jamb or window sill. When the door or window is opened it trips the hammer



Upper: F. WESSON over-under watch-charm pistol with dagger. Lower: SHATTUCK "Unique" squeezer-type pistol

and fires the cartridge. The intruder is then supposed to take the hint and leave, before the irate owner awakens and appears on the scene.

Multi-shot vest-pocket pistols: Nicknamed "watch-charm pistol" because of its diminutive size and its ring-type hammer, this over-and-under pistol (Group 3) was produced by Frank Wesson, who was active in Worcester, Massachusetts from around 1850 until 1877. It was patented December 15, 1868. Two types of these tiny fellows were produced, one like the specimen illustrated, which has a tiny one-inch dagger that slides out of the center tubular chamber between the two barrels, and another model made without the dagger. Their tiny size makes them a favorite with collectors whose yen leans toward the unusual.

Oddest of the group is the 4-shot palm pistol called "UNIQUE" and produced by the C. S. Shattuck Arms Company, Hatfield, Massachusetts. It was patented on December 4, 1906. A 1915 sporting-goods catalog has this to say of it: "This pistol takes no more room in the pocket than a watch and weighs but six ounces. It can be carried in the hand without detection . . . or can be fired from the pocket or handbag. It holds four cartridges, .22 caliber rimfire." The four chambers of this oddity are bored through a solid block which tips down to load. The trigger is (*Continued on page* 58)

NRA Christmas Special • *3 Gifts in 1*

only $5.00
(regular $6.50 value)

1 Annual membership in the NRA, greatest shooters' club in the world.

2 A year's subscription to the one and only AMERICAN RIFLEMAN.

3 A year's subscription to FIELD AND STREAM, superb reading for outdoorsmen.

All for only five dollars. What finer Christmas present could you give any gun lover, shooter or sportsman?

The publishers of FIELD AND STREAM—one of the leading monthly outdoor magazines—have authorized us to make this wonderful combination offer for a limited time only. It comes just in time to help solve your Christmas shopping problem!

But remember, abnormally heavy pre-Christmas mails frequently cause delays. So use this coupon NOW. Then you can be sure your order will arrive promptly.

Each sportsman you remember with this extra special gift will be sent an attractive greeting card, signed with your name.

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Name_____
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City_____ Zone____ State_____
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Gift Card to read from:
_____

Donor's Name_____
Address_____
City_____ Zone____ State_____

YOUR OWN COMBINATION—$5.00

☐ With new NRA membership ☐ Extending present membership

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED $_____

1250

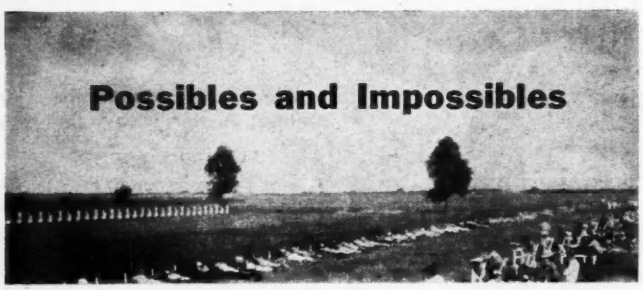
NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION

1600 RHODE ISLAND AVE., N. W., WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

A PAPER FOR PEOPLE WHO SHOOT

Rifle Reporter

VOL. 13, NO. 12 BRIDGEPORT, DECEMBER



Each year at this time we take on the pleasant assignment of reviewing shooting accomplishments during the past twelve months. It was an eventful year in the target sports, one that will be long remembered.

Sooner or later the "hoss that's never been rode" gets ridden, and the "man that's never been throwed" gets unseated. This well-known philosophy of the cowboy describes very nicely what happened to many a seemingly "unbeatable" record score during 1950. We can hardly wait to see what will happen in 1951. It's hard to conceive championship performances that will exceed those of the past year . . . but then, we felt the same way about 1949.

* * * * *

In a statistical survey, the National Rifle Association reported a steady increase in the number of rifle clubs throughout the nation. During our visits to matches all over the country we noticed that many clubs had built additional firing points, or otherwise improved their facilities.

* * * * *

Match rifle shooting is becoming a favorite sport in scholastic and industrial recreation programs. Many a future champion will have learned how to hold and squeeze on an industrial or high school range.

* * * * *

Several clubs throughout the country have added "sighting-in" facilities for big game hunters. Some of these clubs are now equipped with stationary and running-deer targets, around which are centered regularly scheduled competitions.

* * * * *

Good shooting habits are the basis for good sportsmanship and safe gun handling. With this thought in mind, several clubs we know of have gone "all out" in the instruction of Juniors during 1950. As a friend of ours put it, "Train 'em while they're young—and safety becomes a life-long habit."

* * * * *

Merry Christmas . . . and good shooting in '51!

Remington News

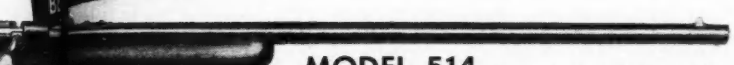
WEATHER:
CRISP AS THE TRIGGER PULL ON A REMINGTON RIFLE

DGEPORT, ECEMBER, 1950

First Class Reading Matter for Rifle and Pistol Shooters

RTLS HOW TO CHOOSE
E IT 22 FOR A CHRISTMAS GIFT

EGINNERS

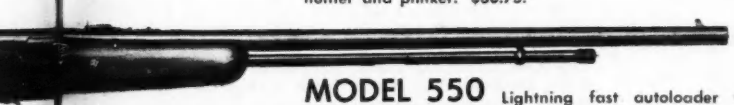


MODEL 514 Here's hunting and plinking fun. Safe bolt action single shot, self-cocking, rotary type thumb safety. Shoots 22 short, long and long rifle. Priced at a thrifty $15.35.

MODEL 511 Sturdy bolt action, box magazine repeater. Holds seven cartridges. Has thumb safety, red dot firing pin safety indicator. Ideal for young shooters. $26.35.

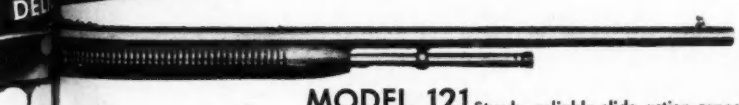
SHOOTERS

MODEL 512 Same as Model 511, except for large capacity tubular magazine. Holds 22 short, 17 long or 15 long rifle cartridges. A fine rifle for the hunter and plinker. $30.75.

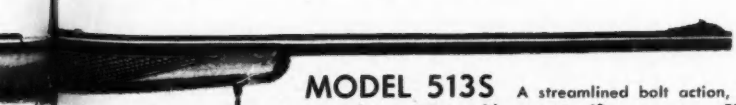


MODEL 550 Lightning fast autoloader with famous POWER PISTON action that shoots all 3 sizes of 22's interchangeably, without adjustment. Ideal rifle for small game, vermin. $38.45.

"HOT-SHOTS"



MODEL 121 Sturdy, reliable slide action repeater. Short fore-end stroke gives fast, smooth operation. Handsome finish. A "natural" for shooters who like a slide action. $54.95.



MODEL 513S A streamlined bolt action, box magazine sporter with target rifle accuracy. Richly checkered American walnut stock. Satiny blue-black finish. $54.35.

Prices change without notice.

"Hi-Speed" and "Kleanbore" are Reg. U.S. Pat. off. by Remington Arms Company, Inc.

"FIT THE RIFLE TO THE HUNTER" ADVISES WELL-KNOWN SHOOTER

BRIDGEPORT, CONN., 1950. "A Remington 22 rifle is one Christmas gift that can be enjoyed for a lifetime," a well-known midwest shooter told us last week. "I know, because I've been helping folks choose the right rifle for 30 years now.

"For example," he continued, " a beginning shooter should have a safe, simple rifle. A single shot is fine. My favorite is Remington Model 514. It has a rotary thumb safety at the rear of the bolt. And the gun is self-cocking.

"Another good one for the tyro is Remington Model 511. The box magazine holds six shots. And that red dot safety indicator shows at a glance when the gun is cocked.

"Both rifles weigh about 5½ pounds . . . Just right for a teen-age boy . . . yet heavy enough for Dad as well.

"Fathers sometimes worry about size. I tell them to avoid getting a pint-size gun which will cramp his boy's arm and hand . . . give him bad shooting habits."

FOR EXPERIENCED SHOOTERS

"What does the experienced hunter and plinker want?" we asked.

"Pretty evenly divided," our friend continued, "between bolt action and autoloaders. Remington Model 512 is a big favorite. But the Model 550 is popular, too. Everybody likes the big tubular magazines on both guns. Load 'em up and you've got a good start on a day's hunting."

"And the expert. What's his best bet in a hunting and plinking rifle?"

"I favor Remington Model 121. Guess I've got a soft spot for that fast slide action. Yes, the 121 is really an accurate, fast-handling beauty.

"If they prefer a bolt action, there's the Model 513S. It's fast and accurate. The checkered stock and trim lines are bound to please any real gun lover."

"How about ammunition as a Christmas gift?" we asked.

"It's becoming a more popular gift every year. I recommend Remington 'Hi-Speed' 22's with 'Kleanbore' priming for hunting and plinking. I see they're Christmas gift wrapped this year, in cartons of 250 as well as 500."

We started to leave but our friend called us back.

"While you're at it, how about wishing my shooting friends a Merry Christmas?"

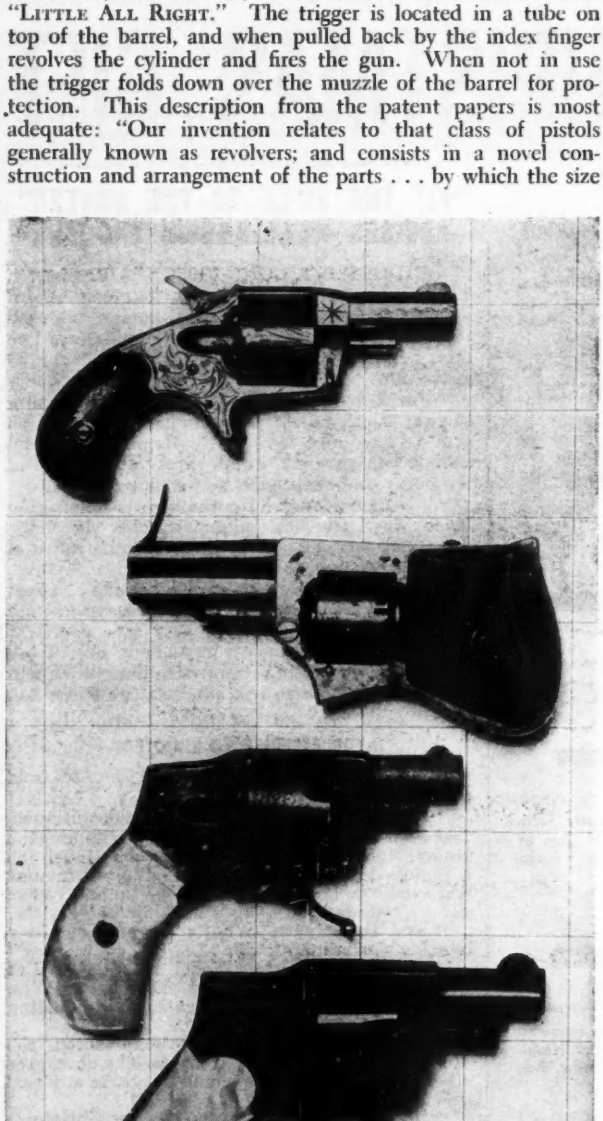
We said we would, so Merry Christmas to you all . . . from all of us here at Remington.

BABY 22's

Continued from page 54

a movable part of the frame which is squeezed to rotate the firing pin and fire the piece. A piece of similar description was patented by Cornelius Vanderbilt, Jr., on March 21, 1916.

Vest-pocket revolvers: A contemporary publication describes one of these revolver oddities (Group 4) as "not only the smallest but the most perfect firearm in the world." Patented by Edward P. Boardman and Andrew J. Peavey on January 18, 1876, the arm was manufactured by the All Right Fire Arms Co., of Lawrence, Massachusetts. Its trade name is "LITTLE ALL RIGHT." The trigger is located in a tube on top of the barrel, and when pulled back by the index finger revolves the cylinder and fires the gun. When not in use the trigger folds down over the muzzle of the barrel for protection. This description from the patent papers is most adequate: "Our invention relates to that class of pistols generally known as revolvers; and consists in a novel construction and arrangement of the parts . . . by which the size of the implement is greatly reduced, while its effectiveness is increased."



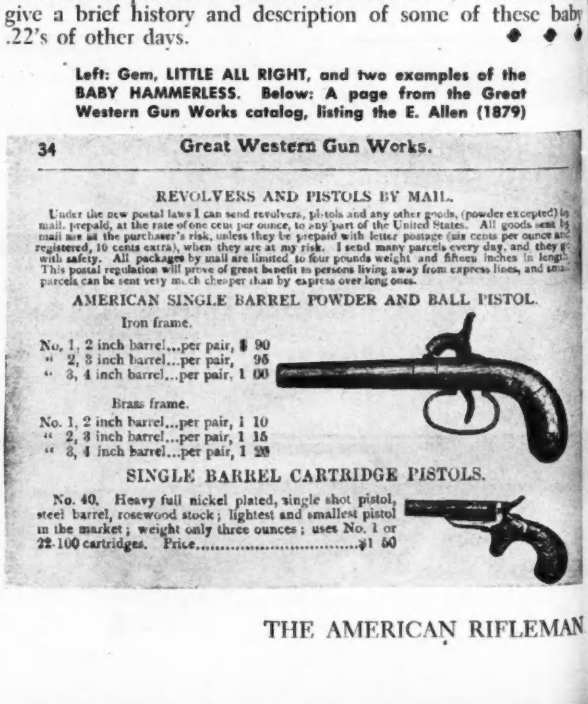
Tiniest of the revolvers is the one marked GEM, which was patented on December 10, 1878 by Alonzo L. Sweet of Norwich, Connecticut. One-half interest in his patent rights was assigned by Sweet to the Bacon Arms Company, also of Norwich. Whether Bacon produced these diminutive revolvers or 'farmed' their manufacture out is not known. One proud owner has a pair of these Gem revolvers displayed in a case of blue calfskin lined with blue velvet. The revolvers, in mint condition, have nickel-plated engraved frames and gold-plated cylinders. The grips are of pearl.

Advertised in some of the earlier ads as "garter pistols" the little baby hammerless revolvers (Group 4) are perhaps the best known to the general public of any of the vest-pocket arms. They were widely advertised by the firm of R. F. Sedgley, Inc., of Philadelphia, until a few years ago. Three types were made, two solid frame models and one hinged frame, tip-down model. The top of the frame of the birdshead grip model is stamped PAT. FEB. 2, '92 FEB. 4, '96 BABY HAMMERLESS PATENTS PENDING." The top of the frame of the other is marked "PAT. 4-5-10 2-13-17 BABY HAMMERLESS MODEL 1920 U. S. A. Some of these baby hammerless arms have been observed with a K in a circle on the grips. This is the initial of Henry M. Kolb of Philadelphia, who held some of the patents. Here is what some of the catalog copy had to say concerning these revolvers: "The acknowledged smallest cartridge revolver on the market . . . so minute in size it can be easily concealed in the hand . . . it appeals especially to motorists . . . it can be carried in the vest pocket . . . it is a handy weapon . . . it is well made and guaranteed . . . it will do the work for which it was intended . . . it completes your line of revolvers. . . ."

Several years have passed since any of these vest-pocket arms were last advertised in magazines or catalogs. Hidden away in old trunks or tucked away in bureau drawers they have now taken their place alongside the bustle and hoop skirt, the hitching post and the moustache cup.

So ends this story of these interesting and distinctive vest-pocket arms. Doubtless there are others which should have been illustrated here, but unfortunately they failed to show up in this survey. The writer would appreciate information on any not included herein. This study was not, however, intended to provide a check list of the arms, but rather to give a brief history and description of some of these baby .22's of other days. ◆ ◆ ◆

Left: Gem, LITTLE ALL RIGHT, and two examples of the BABY HAMMERLESS. Below: A page from the Great Western Gun Works catalog, listing the E. Allen (1879)



34 Great Western Gun Works.

REVOLVERS AND PISTOLS BY MAIL.

Under the new postal laws I can send revolvers, pistols and any other goods, (powder excepted) by mail, prepaid, at the rate of one cent per ounce, to any part of the United States. All goods sent by mail are at the purchaser's risk, unless they be prepaid with letter postage (six cents per ounce) and registered, 10 cents extra), when they are at my risk. I send many parcels every day, and they go with safety. All packages by mail are limited to four pounds weight and fifteen inches in length. This postal regulation will prove of great benefit to persons living away from express lines, and small parcels can be sent very much cheaper than by express over long ones.

AMERICAN SINGLE BARREL POWDER AND BALL PISTOL.

Iron frame.

No. 1, 2 inch barrel...per pair, $ 90
" 2, 3 inch barrel...per pair, 95
" 3, 4 inch barrel...per pair, 1 00

Brass frame.

No. 1, 2 inch barrel...per pair, 1 10
" 2, 3 inch barrel...per pair, 1 15
" 3, 4 inch barrel...per pair, 1 20

SINGLE BARREL CARTRIDGE PISTOLS.

No. 40. Heavy full nickel plated, single shot pistol, steel barrel, rosewood stock; lightest and smallest pistol in the market; weight only three ounces; uses No. 1 or 22-100 cartridges. Price.....$1 50

THE SPOTTING SCOPE -- December 1950

Major General Milton A. Reckord is reaping the harvest of an outstanding life. Latest honor bestowed on the NRA's retired Executive Vice-President is the Distinguished Service Medal of the National Guard Association of America. The General's name will always head the list as the first recipient of the new Guard decoration . . . Recent trips have taken NRA staffmen to clubs and ranges spanning the entire continent. Association secretary Frank Wyman attended shooters' meetings, visited ranges and talked to club members in Southern California and the Southwest. Staffman George Kuch took in a meeting attended by the combined members of eight Minneapolis-St. Paul rifle and pistol clubs, who got together with an eye toward banding together as a Twin Cities shooting association . . . and Ed Bridgman, until recently Association representative in the New England area, broadened his field by attending shooters' meetings in Boise, Salt Lake City and Kansas City. The last stop was to take in a school for VFW junior and athletic directors, at which the NRA's new Basic Training Program (see page 42) was discussed . . . Columbia Broadcasting Company television viewers in New York City are now getting a steady diet of gun safety and shooting instruction via Sheriff Bob Dixon's "Chuck Wagon" show. Washington, D. C. audiences will soon be getting the same type program out of another major outlet, with both shows having a good chance of going network . . . Minutes of the San Francisco members meeting are now available from the NRA Washington office upon request . . . Savage Arms Corporation has announced the appointments of William D. Higgins as Assistant to the Vice-President and Joseph V. Falcon as Sales Manager of the sporting arms division.

Harlon Carter, well-known pistol shooter and chief of the Border Patrol in El Paso, Texas for a good many years, is now stationed in Washington, D. C. with the Immigration and Naturalization service. Carter will be remembered in the Southwest as the man who got the El Paso authorities to build the fifty-target air-operated pistol range now under construction. Advance information says it's to be one of the outstanding ranges in the world . . . Bob Chow wants all his friends to know he has gone back to the Navy and is no longer connected with King Gun Sight Company . . . The Knoxville Journal carried this football score a few Sundays back: Winchester, 73, Colt, 45 . . . The Pueblo, Colorado Centennial high school girls' rifle team, coached by Ethel Wentworth, won the first annual Colorado VFW Junior Rifle Championship with a score of 1436 out of a possible 1500. Bob Nichols of Denver saved the masculine sex by winning the individual crown with a 295 out of 300 . . . Pressley W. Kendall, 14, of Kemper Military School, Booneville, Mo., is the youngest NRA master outdoor smallbore shooter on record. Pressley started shooting at the age of nine and so far has won 20 trophies, 150 medals and was high expert in this year's Southeast regional . . . Petty Seaman Apprentice Rose J. Valarosi, of Madera, Calif., was the first Wave to become a member of the Great Lakes Naval Training Center rifle team.

Police officer Orson P Jones is in charge of the San Diego, California, police range. He replaced Rodney Pease, who retired November 15 . . . Mrs. Alice Bull, NRA director from Seattle, Washington, is now President of the Washington State Rifle Association . . . Ideal Pictures Corporation, 65 East South Water Street, Chicago, Illinois, with 24 film exchanges from coast-to-coast, is handling NRA films. The complete library includes outdoor sports, special features, educational pieces and good slam-bang westerns. Any club interested in a film night can drop Ideal a card for the 125-page film catalog . . . Gunn Smith is a scout executive with the Boy Scouts of America . . . Seagram Distillers are teaching gun safety in the hunting field through a new advertising program . . . Harvey Donaldson, one of the better bench-rest shooters, is telling this one on himself. He went to a country shoot last summer where they were shooting at captive balloons at 200 yards, offhand. He plunked down a quarter to win a dollar by scoring a hit. He fired and as the balloon sailed away he rushed for his buck. The range officer turned him down for not hitting the soaring balloon. "Oh," said Harvey, "I thought you had to cut the string" . . . Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year to all of you from all of us here at NRA headquarters.

Paul Cardinal

Report on San Francisco Meetings; New Association By-Laws Adopted

Approval to hold the National Championships and National Rifleman Association Convention in 1951 highlighted the Association's October meetings in San Francisco. The adoption of new by-laws, rule book changes, a limitation on the number of official national records, the 1951 Regional Championship setup, and the election of officers and new directors were the other major business items taken up by NRA officials and members. Below, under separate sub-headings, are reports of the various actions.

National Championships and Convention

The Executive Committee approved the proposal that both the postponed 1950 National Championships and Convention be held in 1951 under the original conditions contemplated for this year. This means the 3rd NRA Convention will be held in San Francisco, but one year late. The original 1951 site, Jacksonville, Florida, automatically moves back to 1952. The Executive Committee also recommended that September dates be considered for 1951, but Walter Swanson, San Francisco's capable convention manager, has sent notification that only the dates October 6 to 12 are available at this time.

Board of Directors

Each year at the annual members meeting, twenty directors are voted to the sixty-man board for a three year term. The twenty named this year were Thomas M. Blakemore, Chicago, Illinois; D. J. Bolton, Medford, Oreg.; R. G. Carl, Enid, Okla.; Frank C. Crooker, Jr., Westboro, Mass.; Roy Freeman, Joplin, Mo.; H. R. Jacobs, Woodland, Calif.; E. R. Lamster, Pierre, S.D.; William E. Lawrence, New York, N.Y.; John G. Lenz, Baltimore, Md.; Roland V. Manning, Greenacres, Wash.; Edward McDaniel, Cimarron, N.M.; Dexter F. Rhodes, Milwaukee, Wisc.; Major General M. A. Edson, Montpelier, Vt.; Don R. Gillies, Detroit, Mich.; Donald B. Hilliker, Kenmore, N.Y.; C. B. Lister, Washington, D.C.; L. A. Pope, Los Angeles, Calif.; Henry J. E. Reid, Hampton, Va.; B. K. Soby, Fergus Falls Minn.; and David P. Sugden, Salt Lake City, Utah.

The first twelve were named to the board for the first time while the others served on other panels. To fill three vacancies on the board, Frank Svec, Palisades, N.J., and Harry P. Swing, Bryn Mawr, Pa., were elected for one year terms and Farley Tubbs, Lansing, Mich., for two years

Officers Of The NRA For 1950-1951

The Board of Directors re-elected all of the 1949-1950 officers back into office. Major-General M. A. Edson was named president, Harry Linn, Des Moines, Iowa, Vice-President, C. B. Lister, Executive Director, Louis Lucas, Treasurer, and Frank Wyman, Secretary. In addition, they named two new officers and four new members to the Executive Committee. The new officers were Louis Q. Bradley, Assistant Treasurer and Frank C. Daniel, Assistant Secretary. The four directors voted to the Executive Committee were Russell I. Wisler, San Francisco, Calif., George Whittington, Amarillo, Tex., Carl Kastner, Maplewood, N.J., and James Affleck, Pittsburgh, Pa. The other members of the Executive Committee returned to office were —Major General Edson, Harry Linn and C. B. Lister, Rear Admiral M. C. Mumma, Berryville, Va., Frank T. Parsons, Jr., Washington, D.C., J. Alvin Badeaux, Thibodaux, La., Kinsey J. Voorhees, La Mesa, Calif., C. A. Brown, Tampa, Fla., Colonel James F. Strain, Washington, D.C., Marvin D. Driver, Detroit, Mich., and C. M. Styer, Seattle, Washington.

New NRA By-Laws

The amended by-laws are the result of two years study by special committees. A number of full committee meetings were held during the two years and suggestions exchanged by mail. The committee's constant effort was to broaden participation of NRA members in Association affairs. This is evidenced by the amendments concerning pre-nomination recommendations and concerning the competition rules and program committees proposals.

To assure continuing study of NRA by-laws, a new committee has already been named by the president. Any member wishing to submit a proposed amendment may correspond directly with Judge Hilliard Comstock, Superior Court, Santa Rosa, California; Inspector Marvin Driver, 750 Whitmore Road, Apt. 208, Detroit, Michigan or Mr. Irvine C. Porter, 415 Hambaugh Avenue, Homewood, Birmingham 9, Alabama. This committee will report its findings at the 1951 Directors' Meeting.

Outstanding among the new provisions of the by-laws is the procedure for electing members of the Board of Directors. Under the old by-laws only life members were privileged to make pre-nominations of candidates for election to the NRA Board of Directors. The new by-laws permit any NRA individual or organization member to make unlimited pre-nomination recommendations to a nominating committee of members appointed by the president. In addition to the nominations presented to the nominating committee any member entitled to vote may make a formal nomination in writing to the secretary within forty-eight hours of the time of the annual members meeting. Such nominations to be seconded by five voting members. The names of all nominees will be displayed at the place of the annual meeting and voting will be by printed ballot or by voting machine. Voting members of the NRA are life and endowment members, patrons and benefactors.

Another important advancement in the new by-laws is the establishment of the Junior Patrol, an affiliated group of not less than three or more than nine youths under nineteen years old, organized under an adult instructor. The Junior Patrol will make possible organized junior shooting in areas where it is now impractical to organize a ten boy junior club.

Under the new by-laws, the president is required to appoint annually a standing committee on rules and provide program recommendations for high power rifle, small-bore rifle, pistol and junior activities. Each committee to study the problems of its particular branch of the association's activity and make written reports and recommendations to the Executive Committee. Any recommendation of such a committee becomes automatically effective unless acted upon by the Executive Committee not later than the second meeting after presentation of the recommendation.

The chairman of the committee on revision of by-laws was Mr. Harry Linn, vice-president of the NRA. Members of the committee were Mr. Karl Frederick, New York, Mr. John Schooley, Colorado, Mr. F. W. Parker, Illinois, Mr. J. Alvin Badeaux, Louisiana, Mr. Carl Kastner, New Jersey, Mr. George Whittington, Texas, Admiral M. C. Mumma, Virginia, Mr. Marvin Driver, Michigan, Mr. W. Owen Keller, Kentucky and Dr. E. O. Swanson of Minnesota.

Copies of the new by-laws are being printed and will be available to all members on request.

1951 Regional Championships

The NRA will furnish the complete schedule of awards for the smallbore and pistol regional championships in 1951. In all, 3,200 trophies, medals and prizes will be distributed among the 22 tournaments. The awards will be broken down as folows: The first six places plus the four high shooters in each class will be awarded in the grand aggregates. The first four places plus the three high shooters in each class in the sub-aggregates and the first three places plus the two high shooters in each class in the individual matches. In addition, organizations conducting pistol regionals will be able to offer additional prizes.

As in 1950, regional boundary lines will be observed for pistol regionals. A map showing the boundaries will be published with tournament locations at a later date.

Non-resident NRA members who live in a foreign country will be able to compete in the 1951 matches. In the smallbore, they will be able to shoot in the regional of their choosing without regard to place of residence. In the pistol regionals, foreign residents will have to shoot in the tournament closest to their home.

Recognized National Records

National smallbore records will be recognized by the NRA for the following courses of fire only:

OUTDOOR

Dewar Course

40 shots 50 yards
40 shots 100 yards
40 shots 50 meters

Regional Aggregate Course

1951 REGIONAL TOURNAMENTS

Eleven smallbore rifle and eleven pistol regional championships are scheduled for 1951. Applications to conduct regionals have been mailed to each affiliated club and bids will be tabulated for consideration. Letters announcing the approved dates and locations for each regional will be mailed to all NRA clubs in January. The February AMERICAN RIFLEMAN will carry a complete announcement of the tournaments. The early information will permit shooters to make plans for summer competition. It will also assist state and local tournament sponsors to schedule other events and avoid conflicting dates. Another story on this page covers other committee actions on the 1951 regional tournaments containing such information as the expansion of the regional award schedule.

National records for the above courses will be maintained for "individual", "women" and "junior" for both metallic and any-sight courses.

TWO and FOUR MAN TEAMS

Dewar Metallic
Dewar Any

GALLERY COURSES ALL 50 FOOT

20 shots kneeling
20 shots sitting
20 shots standing
20 shots Prone and sitting (10 shots each)
20 shots prone and kneeling (10 shots each)
20 shots prone and standing (10 shots each)
40 shots PSKS (10 shots each position)
30 shots PKS (10 shots each position)

National records for the above courses will be maintained for "individual", "women" and "junior" for both metallic and any-sight courses.

GALLERY 50 FOOT, TWO and FOUR MAN TEAMS

10 shots each, 4 position metallic sights
10 shots each, 4 position any sights
10 shots each, prone, kneeling, standing metallic sights, any sights.

National pistol records will be recognized by the NRA for the following courses of fire only:

PISTOL—OUTDOOR

20 shots, slow fire, 25 yard slow fire target
20 shots, slow fire, 50 yards, .22 caliber
20 shots, timed fire, 25 yards, .22 caliber
20 shots, rapid fire, 25 yards, .22 caliber
National Match .22 caliber
NRA short course
4-man team, national match, .22 caliber
Same courses, any center fire
Same courses, .45 caliber

PISTOL—INDOOR

20 shots, slow fire, 50 feet, .22 caliber
20 shots, timed fire, 50 feet, .22 caliber
20 shots, rapid fire, 50 feet, .22 caliber
4 man team, 3 stage, 50 feet, .22 caliber
Aggregate with each gun at each range consisting of:

20 shots, slow fire
20 shots, timed fire
20 shots, rapid fire

National Match Course, NRA short course and 50 foot course
Three gun aggregate of above aggregates

Changes in Rule Books Effective January 1, 1951

SMALL BORE

Rule 1-9: Shooting kits—The shooting kit may not be placed forward of the shooter's *forward* shoulder on the firing line.

Rule 6-7: Scoring X's on gallery targets—For deciding otherwise unbreakable ties in gallery matches any shot touching the ten ring but not touching the inside of the nine ring will be counted as an X.

Rule 7-1: National Records—(The last sentence of this rule has been changed to read) Indoor ranges may be equipped with outdoor type target frames but record scores fired on such indoor ranges will not be recorded for national records.

Rule 11-5: Referee's Duties—During Tournament—a new paragraph (i) added: When triggers are weighed (see rule 4-19) he shall weigh or supervise the weighing.

Rule 13-10: Individual Squadding—(The first sentence changed to read) After entries have closed in each event and score cards have been completed with competitor's name, number and classification the cards will be thoroughly shuffled or rearranged by any approved method before the target number and relay are filled in on the proper space on both score card and squadding ticket.

Rule 10-3: *Tyro Competitors* are individuals who have not previously fired in NRA registered competition, either outdoor or gallery. An individual may be permitted to enter as a Tyro upon the written statement that he or she is without previous NRA registered tournament or league experience. A competitor so entered will be placed in the Marksman class unless he or she has known scores, the average of which would place the competitor in a higher class. If the tournament offers special awards for tyro competitors, such a competitor will be allowed to enter that class. The individual will present either a written statement from the secretary of the club of which he or she is a member, or a personally written statement if he or she is not a member of a club. Such statements shall be as follows:

I ..... certify that I am without previous NRA registered tournament or league experience; that I do not now possess nor have I ever possessed a National Rifle Association classification.

.....
Signature

— or —

I ..... secretary of ..... club certify that ..... is without previous NRA registered tournament or league experience; that he/she does not now possess nor has ever possessed a National Rifle Association classification.

.....
Secretary of
.....
Club

10-14: Establishing Outdoor Classification—A competitor who has not been classified by the NRA will be classified as follows:

When the scores of eight registered events (exclusive of subnormal scores for Marksman) have been posted to the competitor's record card at NRA headquarters office, the total for the eight events will be divided by the number of 10 shot strings. If this average is below 98.0 or above, then an additional eight events will be required and his classification will be arrived at by dividing the total of sixteen events by the number of 10 shot strings. The competitor will then be sent an official classification card.

10-17: Outdoor Reclassification—A competitor who has been classified by the NRA will be reclassified by the following procedure:

(a) A record of all registered match scores fired by a classified competitor will be maintained in the headquarters office.

(b) 1. *Marksman:* When eight match scores exclusive of subnormal scores (see 10-16) have been recorded there, the competitor's average will be established by dividing the total of eight match scores by the number of 10 shot strings represented.

2. *Sharpshooter and Expert:* When sixteen match scores, exclusive of subnormal scores (see 10-16) have been recorded there, the competitor's average will be established by dividing the total of sixteen match scores by the number of shot strings represented.

(c) When a competitor's average is established in (b) exceeds the maximum for his current classification (see 10-13) he will be reclassified according to that average. Should a competitor's classification average as established in (b) fall below the minimum for his current classification he will not be classified but will retain his current classification subject to the provision of Par. 10-18.

(d) A reclassified competitor will be sent a new classification card and notice of reclassification.

10-18: *Application for outdoor reclassification.* A competitor who, by scores previously fired, has earned a classification and whose current match scores are consistently below those necessary to support the competitor's present earned classification may apply to the NRA secretary for reclassification and that officer may reclassify the competitor as follows:

(a) A competitor may be considered for reclassification to a lower class by showing scores from thirty-two events. Such registered tournament scores shall have been fired in events as prescribed in 10-4 and shall have been fired within the preceding calendar year (January 1 to December 31).

10-20: *Establishing Gallery Classification*—A competitor who has not been classified by the NRA will be classified as follows: When a minimum of 50 shots (exclusive of marksman subnormal scores) has been posted to the competitor's record card at NRA headquarters office in both the prone and standing positions, the competitor's NRA gallery classification average will be computed as follows:

(a) The prone scores will be totalled. The number of shots fired will be divided by 10 to establish the number of 10 shot strings fired. The total score will be divided by the number of 10 shot strings. The result will be the prone average.

(b) The standing average will be similarly computed.

(c) The prone average and the standing average will be added together and divided by two. The result will be the competitor's average for gallery classification (see Table IV).

(d) Should a competitor fire 150 shots in NRA registered competition (exclusive of league and subnormal scores) for either position but less than 50 shots in the other position, that competitor's average for the 150 shots will be established as outlined in this paragraph and that average will establish his classification according to the average shown in table V below.

Table No. V
Gallery

	Prone Only Average Score	Standing Only Average Score
Master	99.0 & above	88.0& above
Expert	98 to 98.99	83.0 to 87.99
Sharpshooter	97.0 to 97.99	78.0 to 82.99
Marksman	96.99 & below	77.99 & below

10-23: *Gallery Reclassification*—A competitor who has been classified by the NRA will be reclassified by the following procedure:

(a) A record of all registered match scores fired by a classified competitor will be maintained in the NRA headquarters office.

(b) 1. *Marksman*—When a minimum of 50 shots (exclusive of subnormal scores) has been recorded in both the prone and standing positions or 150 shots as in (d), the com-

REMEMBER

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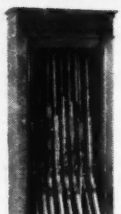

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petitor's gallery classification average will be computed in accordance with 10-20 (a), (b), (c) and (d).

10-24: *Application for Gallery Reclassification*—A competitor who, by scores previously fired, has earned a classification and whose current match scores are consistently below those necessary to support the competitor's present earned classification may apply to the NRA secretary for reclassification and that officer may reclassify the competitor as follows:

(a) A competitor may be considered for reclassification to a lower class by showing a minimum of 200 shots in registered competition fired in both prone and standing positions. Such registered tournament or league scores shall have been fired in events as prescribed in 10-4 and shall have been fired within the preceding calendar year (January 1 to December 31).

(b) A competitor who has been reclassified downward as provided in (a) hereof and who, by scores fired in registered competition has again earned the former classification, which, by application, that competitor was allowed to vacate, then that classification shall become final and the competitor will retain the earned classification.

The following amended pistol were adopted:

PISTOL

5-21 (b): If a cartridge fails to fire or misfires, or a gun fails to function in timed or rapid fire, the competitor will not be allowed to refire the string. The competitor may complete the string by manually cocking the piece or operating the slide but if he does so the gun must remain pointed toward the target at all times.

Note: Rule 5-21 (a) (present rule) is to apply for all regional and national championships. Rule 5-21 (b) may be used for other tournaments provided tournament program clearly states that rule 5-21 (b) will apply for that tournament. Otherwise 5-21 (a) will apply.

18-18: *Aggregate Classification*—In aggregate matches consisting of events of more than one caliber competitors will be classified by using table No. 1. Use the proper key number for competitor's classification in each gun and divide the total by the number of guns included in the aggregate. EXAMPLE: A competitor firing in a three gun aggregate is a Master (4) in .22 caliber, Expert (3) in center fire and Marksman (1) in .45 caliber. This would be a total "key" value of eight which would be divided by three (the number of guns in the aggregate) for an average of 2.66. This would place the competitor in the expert class for this aggregate.

The report of the high power rifle committee included recommendations for 1951 national match plans, adoption of a high power rifle short course of fire, that efforts be continued to have M-1 service rifles available for purchase by NRA members, that international type of shooting be further encouraged and several rule changes. At the suggestion of high power committee chairman Thurman Randle, the Executive Committee approved the rule changes and deferred the balance of the report for action in February.

HIGH POWER

High power rule additions approved by the Executive Committee pertained to breaking of ties:

(To be inserted between Rules 10-1 and 10-2)

"Value of X or V in all matches where the X or V is scored, an X or V is a hit of highest value". (to be added at the end of rule 10-3 in the form of a new line (d).

"In slow fire individual stages, by the value of the hits in inverse order, counted singly from the last to the first (X's or V's being hits of highest value)."

Rule 10-4 changed to read—Slow Fire matches at one range, more than one position.

"In slow fire matches fired at one range, but in more than one position, ties will be ranked:

(a) By the highest ranking score at the standing stage.

(b) By the highest ranking score at the kneeling stage.

(c) By the highest ranking score at the sitting stage.

(d) By the highest ranking score at the prone stage."

(To be added between Rules 10-5 and 10-6)

"Slow and rapid fire at more than one range, more than one position.

Ties will be broken by considering 10-3, 10-5 and 10-4 in that order."

Junior Activities

The junior committee's report recommended promotion of the smallarms training program, that the assooiation conduct schools of rifle instruction for adult summer camp leaders, that all possible effort be made in the field of public support of junior safety and shooting programs and that an air rifle qualification course be considered for possible adoption. The Executive Committee voted to adopt the air rifle qualification course described in detail on page 45 of this issue and deferred action on the remainder of the report until the February meeting.

SUMMER LEAGUE RESULTS

The registered summer leagues finished the 1950 season by firing for state and national team championships. The Wilmo Rifle Club Team (Cincinnati), of the South Western Ohio Rifle League, won the national rifle team championship with the score of 1595-116x. The pistol team representing the Cerro Gordo Rifle Club (Mason City, Iowa), of the Illowa Association Pistol League, fired a team score of 1124 to win the national pistol trophy. The course of fire for the rifle championship match was fired over the Dewar course (20 shots at 50 yards and 20 shots at 100 yards for each team member) with any sights. The national pistol team championship was fired over the National Match Course with any caliber.

RIFLE

CALIFORNIA	
West Coast Team #1	1591-106
COLORADO	
Padre Rifle Club Team #1	1585-101
FLORIDA	
Clearwater Rifle Club Team	1596-92
ILLINOIS	
Wheaton Rifle Club Team	1593-102
INDIANA	
Ligonier R & P Club Team	1589-101
IOWA	
Becker-Chapman Post R & P Club Team	1595-111
MARYLAND	
Cumberland Rifle Club Team	1593-90
MASSACHUSETTS	
Framingham Sportsmen's Team	1584-81
MICHIGAN	
Kingsford Rifle Club Team	1589-82
NEW YORK	
Millerton Gun Club Team	1568-70
OHIO	
Wilmo Rifle Club Team	1598-114
PENNSYLVANIA	
Walnut Creek #1 Team	1555-61
TEXAS	
Central Texas Team #1	1592-106
VIRGINIA	
Norfolk County Team	1588
WASHINGTON	
American Legion Post #9 Team	1592-97
WISCONSIN	
Beloit Rifle Club Team	1576-89

PISTOL

CALIFORNIA	
Yreka Pistol Club Team #1	991
INDIANA	
Bendix R & P Club Team	1091

NATIONAL GALLERY RECORDS

The following list includes individual records for all courses of fire, both pistol and rifle, which are fired frequently in indoor competition, as well as four-man team records for the three-stage 50-foot pistol course and the four-position 50-foot rifle course.

INDIVIDUAL .22 CALIBER PISTOL

50 feet, Slow		
* Denotes All-Time Record.		
Walter Walsh	Police ('47)	192
R. C. Wild	Civilian	188
Walter Walsh	Service ('49)	*193
Alice Wood	Woman's	178
50 feet, Timed		
Verne Jubenville	Police	*200
Harry Reeves	Police	*200
Eugene O'Dell	Civilian	199
Huelet L. Benner	Service	200
Alice Wood	Woman's	195
50 feet, Rapid		
Walter Walsh	Police	*200+
Ulrich O. Drexl	Civilian	196
Walter Walsh	Service	197
Fanny Palmer	Woman's	189
50 feet, 3 Stage Course		
Roy D. Marshall	Police	*295
David Beggo, Jr.	Civilian	291
Huelet L. Benner	Service	294
Maria Hulseman	Woman's	277

FOUR-MAN TEAMS

50 feet, Three Stage Course		
Detroit Police	Police	1115
Cap. Pistol Club	Civilian	1110
U. S. Marines	Service	*1132
Cap. Pistol Club	Woman's	967

50 FEET SMALLBORE

Individual Metallic

20 shots, prone, Arthur Cook	200+	209	10's
20 shots kneeling, Arthur Cook	198		
20 shots sitting, R. K. Sandager	200		
20 shots standing, Arthur Cook	193		
20 shots prone & standing, Richard Hanson	392		
D. Taylor	392		
10 shots, PSKS, Jay J. Smith	390		
Individual, Any			
20 shots prone, John Perzo	200+	810	10's
20 shots kneeling, Floyd Bender	198		
R. J. Fisher	198		
William Donaghy	198		
20 shots sitting, Walter Philbrick	200+	12	10's
20 shots standing, Arthur Cook	196		
20 shots prone & standing, Jarvis TerHaar	395		
10 shots, PSKS, A. Jackson	397		
Individual, Metallic (Junior)			
20 shots prone, Anna Lou Barker	200+	57	10's
20 shots kneeling, Alan Luke	193		
20 shots sitting, Frederick Gunn	198		
Alan Luke	198		
20 shots standing, J. Love	180		
20 shots prone & standing, Al Chandler	386		
10 shots, PSKS, Jay Smith	385		
Individual, Any Sights (Junior)			
20 shots prone, Dick Sheldon	200+	786	10's
20 shots kneeling, Roy Oster	193		
20 shots sitting, Roy Oster	199		
20 shots standing, Arthur Cook	187		
20 shots prone & standing, Roy Oster	386		
10 shots, PSKS, Al Chandler	389		
Individual Metallic (Women)			
20 shots prone, Anna Lou Barker	200+	57	10's
20 shots kneeling, Betty Balinger	190		
D. Gail Feimster	190		
20 shots sitting, Betty Balinger	196		
20 shots standing, Ruth Morgan	177		
20 shots prone & standing, Audrey Blue	369		
10 shots, PSKS, Suzanne Johnson	379		
Individual, Any (Women)			
20 shots prone, Mary E. Kell	200+	199	10's
20 shots kneeling, Suzanne Johnson	189		
20 shots sitting, May Kell	199		
Mrs. I. K. Waddell	199		
20 shots standing, Anna Lou Barker	188		
20 shots prone & standing, Eisie Ellen	388		
10 shots, PSKS, Suzanne Johnson	383		

FOUR-MAN TEAMS

Metallic

10 shots, 4 positions, Minneapolis Rifle Club	1541

Any

10 shots, 4 positions, Seattle R & P Ass'n	1539

POLICE PISTOL COURSE

Law enforcement officers have frequently suggested that a nationally approved police pistol qualification course be adopted by the NRA. For several years, several police departments have had individual qualification courses but there was no standard nation-wide police qualifying course. The NRA Pistol Committee studied the problem for over a year and recommended a plan which was approved by the Executive Committee last October.

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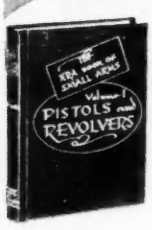

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The plan is now in operation. The course of fire is the FBI Practical Pistol Course. It is a 50-shot course fired on the Colt silhouette target. Total time allowed for the full course is 6 minutes and 10 seconds. Firing is from 60 yards down to 7 yards in four positions, prone, sitting, standing and hip. Scores required are, 93% for Expert, 86% for Sharpshooter and 75% for Marksman. Qualification need not be progressive and a shooter may win either the Expert or Sharpshooter award before qualifying as Marksman.

A center-fire pistol or revolver may be used but it is recommended that police officers use their service sidearm in order to get the most out of the firing. The shooter may fire for qualification either in match competition or supervised practice. If fired in supervised practice, the score must be over the complete specified course, not parts of several courses.

A new series of silver medals have been designed for the qualifications. After qualifying, the individual, if he is an NRA affiliated club member, will order the new awards through his club secretary. Individual NRA members will order them direct from the NRA Washington office.

Departments and clubs wishing to install an FBI firing course may obtain plans and a complete course outline by writing the NRA Competitions Sections. Local FBI officers also may be able to furnish information.

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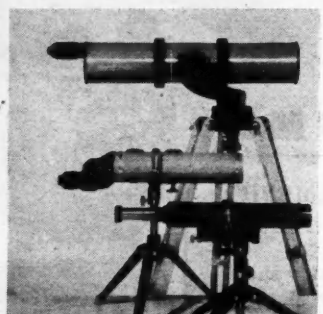

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1950 INTERNATIONAL PISTOL

The annual International Pistol Match for the Mayleigh Challenge Cup was held this year with Great Britain and Canada competing. The United States team was not entered because of cancellation of the national pistol championships.

Great Britain won the match with a team total of 1,728 and the Mayleigh Trophy with 14 silver medals were sent to the British team. The Canadian team received 14 bronze second place medals with a score of 1,714. To pile up the scores the two teams sent 10 teammates to the firing line to fire 20 shots slow fire at the standard American slow-fire target at 20 yards.

The USA team will compete in the 1951 renewal of the International during the 1951 national pistol championships.

TOURNAMENT NEWS

Beginning with the January issue the NRA Tournament News will be mailed free to those members who competed in registered tournaments or leagues during the calendar year of 1950. Those members who have not competed in registered competition, may subscribe to the NRA Tournament News for $1.00 per year.

The NRA Tournament News which is now edited by Russell Warye, of Membership Service, made its first appearance in June of this year. It was a revival of the old Tournament News dropped by the Association in the summer of 1947. The present circulation of the paper is 40,000.

STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, AND CIRCULATION REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912, AS AMENDED BY THE ACTS OF MARCH 3, 1933, AND JULY 2, 1946, (39 U.S.C. 233)

OF THE AMERICAN RIFLEMAN, published monthly at Washington, D. C., for October, 1950.

1. The names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are:

Publisher: National Rifle Association of America, 1600 Rhode Island Ave., N.W., Washington 6, D. C.

Editor: C. B. Lister, 1600 Rhode Island Ave. N.W., Washington 6, D. C.

Managing Editor: John Scofield, 1600 Rhode Island Ave., N.W., Washington 6, D. C.

Business Manager: L. F. Lucas, 1600 Rhode Island Ave., N.W., Washington 6, D. C.

2. The owner is: (If owned by a corporation, its name and address must be stated and also immediately thereunder the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, its name and address, as well as those of each individual member, must be given.)

National Rifle Association of America, 1600 Rhode Island Ave., N.W., Washington 6, D. C. No stockholders.

3. The known bondholders, mortgages, and other security holders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: (If there are not any, so state.)

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4. Paragraphs 2 and 3 include, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting; also the statements in the two paragraphs show the affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner.

5. The average number of copies of each issue of this publication sold or distributed through the mails or otherwise, to paid subscribers during the 12 months preceding the date shown above was: (This information is required from daily, weekly, semi-weekly, and triweekly newspapers only.)

L. F. Lucas, Business Manager.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this second day of October, 1950.

Louis Q. Bradley, Notary Public.

(seal)

My commission expires May 14, 1951.

LEAGUE SEASON OPENS

The NRA has mailed all affiliated club and previously registered league secretaries complete information and application blanks necessary to register a rifle or pistol league for the coming gallery season. Any club or group of clubs affiliated with the NRA may register a league if there are at least three participating teams.

The course of fire within the league and the league firing conditions are optional as long as they do not violate any of the rules published in the NRA Smallbore and Pistol Rule Books. A handicap system may be used in order to give every team a chance to win if this method of scoring is desired by the league members. Entries in 1950-51 gallery league competition will be accepted any time prior to January 15, 1951, and league firing may start prior to registration.

Registered leagues will wind up the season next spring with the State and National Championships.

COMING EVENTS

Tournaments and other important events listed below include all State Championships that have been registered with the NRA. The current Rifle and Pistol Registered Tournament Schedule (available on request) lists all registered tournaments that were reported to NRA Headquarters by March 15, 1950. Tournaments other than championships are not listed in this column after the publication of the seasonal schedule.

Tournaments requiring advance entries are indicated by (Adv.). Tournaments limiting the number of entries that can be accepted are indicated by (Ltd.).

STATE CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENTS AND OTHER REGISTERED TOURNAMENTS

MARCH

11 IDAHO—Idaho State Gallery Pistol Championship at Twin Falls, Idaho. Mr. Thomas M. Hill, Hansen, Idaho.

17-18 IDAHO—Idaho State Gallery Rifle Championship at Twin Falls, Idaho. Mr. Thomas M. Hill, Hansen, Idaho.

24-25 WASHINGTON—Washington State Gallery Rifle Championship at Seattle, Washington. Mr. C. M. Styer, 3447 41st Avenue, S. W., Seattle 6, Washington. (Adv.)

March 31-April 1 NEW YORK—4th Annual New State Indoor Pistol Tournament at Endicott, New York. Mr. C. Arthur Plummer, 408 Hazel Avenue, Union, New York.

APRIL

1 NEBRASKA—Nebraska State Gallery Tournament at Grand Island, Nebraska. Mr. H. H. Buis, 1312 N. 35th Street, Omaha, Nebraska. (Adv.)

13-14-15 KANSAS—State of Kansas Gallery Rifle Tournament at Manhattan, Kansas. Mr. Jess E. Mosteller, 1216 Thurston Street, Manhattan, Kansas.

14-15 MONTANA—Montana State Gallery Pistol Championship at Helena, Montana. Dr. Robert E. Englert, 1405 4th Avenue North, Great Falls, Montana. (Adv.)

28-29 MONTANA—Montana State Gallery Rifle Championship at Big Timber, Montana. Mr. E. S. Shoemaker, 2010 8th Avenue North, Great Falls, Montana. (Adv.)

STOLEN GUNS

Colt Single-Action Army .45 Colt, 312775, stamped left side "Texas State Prison 83", right side, "Texas State Penitentiary". .38 Smith & Wesson breakopen, 76774, H&R grips, no sights. Denis W. Sanborn, 137 Normandy, San Antonio 9, Texas.

Winchester 64 30-30, 1633558. L. R. Smith, Box 93, Bradford, Vermont.

.22 Hi-Standard H-D Military 166517. Captain Harlo J. Sheppard, AFF Board Number 2, Fort Knox, Kentucky.

Winchester 12 Ga. Model 12 shotgun 1027364. M. D. Nelson, Midwest Sport Shop, 332 North Seneca, Wichita 12, Kansas.

Model 37 Ithaca 12 Ga. 217707. Vernon A. Roberts, Adams, Wisconsin.

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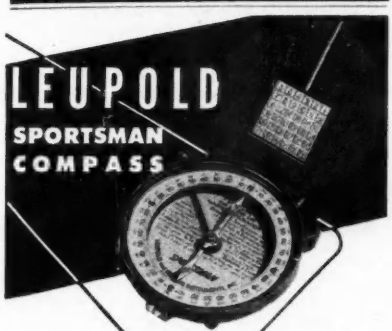

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Dope Bag

answers by
THE RIFLEMAN'S PANEL OF EXPERTS

Julian S. Hatcher • Al Barr • Elmer Keith • Phil Sharpe

RUGER .22 TARGET PISTOL

In the Dope Bag (November, 1949, page 43) we described the Ruger .22 pistol. Since that time the Ruger has thoroughly established itself, and now comes the next logical step—a target model just announced at $57.50.

As most people already know, the name of this newcomer is not a play on that of the famed Luger. W. B. Ruger is a life member of the NRA, and the original Ruger design was the result of his intense interest in firearms. One of his staff, Jack Boudreau, is an enthusiastic competition shot, and after using the original Ruger in numerous competitions, he and Mr. Ruger applied the experience gained in designing the Sport Model to make it as easy as possible for the competition shot to make high scores. He is one doctor who takes his own medicine and likes it, for he has been doing very well in matches with the new gun.

Principal changes from the original Sport Model are in the barrel, the sights and the trigger pull. The barrel is longer and heavier, 6⅞ inches instead of 4¾ as in the Sport Model. The rear sight is the well-known Micro sight, fully adjustable for windage and elevation by clicks. The front sight is a ⅛-inch thick, hardened steel, undercut blade.

New Ruger target handgun, weighing 42 ounces, with a 6⅞-inch barrel, is being produced by Sturm, Ruger & Co. Inc. Priced at $57.50, it has a crisp trigger pull and nice balance

An important aid to accuracy is the fact that the front and rear sights are both mounted solidly on what is effectively one piece of metal, the barrel and receiver assembly. Thus there can be no relative motion between the sights and the line of bore such as is possible with most semiautomatic pistols where the front sight is mounted on the barrel and the rear sight on the moving breech block.

The wide, grooved trigger has a light, crisp pull, and the feel is much improved by a special anti-back lash stop which is part of the mechanism.

The target barrels with six-groove rifling and 14-inch twist are specially burnish reamed before rifling, and show excellent accuracy.

The weight of the gun is 42 ounces and the balance is excellent.

We have test fired the new Ruger target gun and like it very much.—J. S. Hatcher.

PHIL SHARPE TO DOPE BAG

Effective with the January 1951 issue, well known author-shooter Phil Sharpe joins the staff of the RIFLEMAN as a Dope Bag writer. Sharpe is the author of "The Rifle in America" and "Complete Guide to Handloading". For more on Sharpe, turn to page 4. For the latest of Sharpe's technical studies, turn to page 34.

NEW SINGLE-SHOT RIFLE

During the past five or ten years we have heard rumors of new single-shot rifle actions which were designed with the idea of manufacture. We have seen some pilot models and have used several of them. Many of the actions had new, good features, but to our knowledge none have ever been put on the market. Now there is a new one and it is to be manufactured, at least in a limited way.

To be manufactured and made available through the designer, Wilbur J. Hauck, Route 1, West Arlington, Vermont, the action, in design, is built somewhat along the lines of some of the better German-made single shots, and in appearance it looks somewhat like them, with a concealed hammer and a vertical falling block. The action has clean lines and appears to be quite strong and rugged. The take-down system is very simple and all parts are made of a good quality steel. It is undoubtedly the most modern single-shot action being made today. It will be available with either plain or double set triggers.

The price of the action will be $65.00, with about $20.00 additional for Mauser set triggers. Complete rifles, including the set triggers, nicely stocked, will cost about $228.50.

A rifle built on one of these actions was used by Wilbur Hauck at the Johnstown, N. Y., benchrest matches, and it will shoot. Manufacture of the actions will begin about December 1, 1950. The action has been shown only a few times, yet there are already more than a dozen advance orders for it. It is a very nice-looking action which should handle any cartridge within reason.—A. H. Barr.

.30-'06 DEER LOAD

I was given approximately two hundred 170-grain Peters .30-30 bullets. I had them miked and I was told they measured .306 inch. Could I use these in my .30-'06? The Speer bullet in this caliber is .3080-.3085. The difference is .0022, or a percentage difference of .7 of 1 percent.

My chief objection to the .30-'06 bullets on the market is that I've been unable to get them to open up. Both deer I killed last year ran quite a ways after they were shot. My brother doesn't experience the difficulty using the 8 mm. with the 170-grain Winchester Super-Speed bullets. — George W. Hoffman, Jr., East Orange, N. J.

Answer by Al Barr: I have used many .30-caliber bullets measuring .306-inch diameter. You can safely use them in your .30-'06 rifle without any harm to it whatsoever. Because of the small diameter, you can probably use a little more powder than you would with the Speer bullets measuring .308 to .309 inch. Those bullets, made for the .30-'06, definitely should open up if you drive them at relatively high velocity using around 50 to 51 grains of 3031 powder. That is not maximum, and it should give you good accuracy with the bullets.

I think the 150-grain bullet will probably be your best bet if you want a sure kill on deer. You can drive it at high enough velocity to expand, but the load you are using is too light.

TWO GROOVE BARRELS

I have an '03 Springfield A3 barrel with two grooves, made by Remington in 1943, purchased from the DCM. With jacketed bullets in handloads, will significantly higher pressures be developed in the barrel due to increased metal displacement than are developed in normal 4-groove barrels? Should

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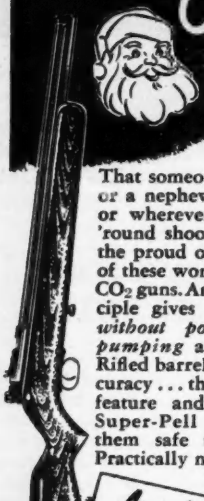

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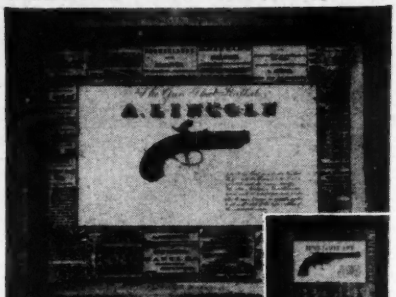

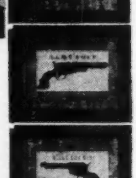

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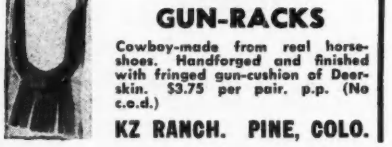

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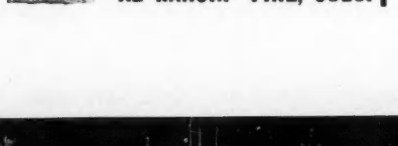

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powder charges be reduced from those shown in the usual loading tables?—W. J. Powell, Jr., Parkersburg, West Virginia.

Answer by Elmer Keith: As a rule 2-groove barrels have plenty of room for displacement of bullet metal and should give normal uniform pressures. They are usually broached barrels and, for that reason, seldom as smooth as rifled barrels and seldom as accurate as a good 4-groove rifled barrel. I fired hundreds of Springfields with both 2- and 4-groove barrels at Ogden Arsenal during the war and saw no difference in pressures. An accurate pressure gun would be required to detect the difference, if any exists.

Go ahead and use recommended loads but as with all high-power rifles, it's wise to start the load a grain or two low and work up. Different makes of cartridge cases vary greatly in weight and wall thickness, which causes a great deal more variation in pressures than differences in the Government barrels of what ever make or type rifling.

ICL WILDCAT CARTRIDGES

Quite too often gunsmiths take a notion to make up a set of chambering reamers for their own version of a blown-out commercial cartridge, then give it some fantastic name and chamber rifles for the cartridge. Far too often a purchaser will get a rifle chambered for what he thinks is a wonderful cartridge and then he is at a loss to know what to do about loading for it. Too often, also, even the gunsmith who schemed up the design and chambered the rifle has practically no loading data to offer. We generally suggest that anyone interested in a so-called improved cartridge get one for which he can get loading data, unless that data is available already from other sources, which it usually is not.

The ICL series of wildcat cartridges are a little different in one respect at least. There is a whole series of these, starting out with blown-out .22 Hornet, .218 Bee, .219 Zipper, .220 Swift, .257, .270, .30-'06, .300 and .375. Only the latter two are based on the belted cases. These cartridges have been developed by the Juenke brothers of the Santa Monica Gun & Rod Shop, 2311 Pico Blvd., Santa Monica, California. Fortunately, the Juenke brothers have tested the rifles in different chambers extensively and can furnish loading data for each of them, with velocity figures in many cases, and furthermore most of the cartridges have been tested for drop up to 500 yards.

We have known about these cartridges for some time and have tried one of them. They have been advertised in the RIFLEMAN for several months. The latest added to the line, which is quite interesting, is called the 6mm .270 Boar. It is the .270 case necked down to 6.5 mm. caliber. The ballistics are quite impressive. Different twists of rifling, from 1 turn in 6 inches to 1 turn in 8 and 1 turn in 10 inches, have been tested, and all these twists will handle the heavy 156-grain Nosler bullet. The slower twist with the same load gives only slightly higher velocity—not enough to be noticeable—with one exception where the increased velocity amounted to nearly 100 feet per second.

The drop figures over 500 yards are very good for such a heavy bullet in the small caliber. When zeroed on aim at 200 yards the bullet would land only about 46 inches low at 500 yards. Complete drop figures will be available for those interested in the cartridge.

Although the bullet starts out at a lower velocity than a 130-grain bullet does in the .270, at 500 yards the bullet, because of its length and sectional density, maintains quite high velocity and drop is practically the same as it is for the much lighter bullet in the .270.

These cartridges are illustrated in a folder put out by the Santa Monica Gun & Rod Shop and ballistic data is available for many of them. It appears to be a very good line of wildcat cartridges for most any purpose.—A. H. Barr.

.270 VERSUS .30-'06

During a recent gun bull session the following statement was made:

"A 100-grain .270 bullet and a 100-grain .30-'06 bullet both leave rifles at the same muzzle velocity. At 500 yards the .30-'06 bullet has only half the muzzle energy of the .270 bullet."

We heard this from what we considered to be a semi-authority, if such exists. However, we have had a young war on our hands between the .270 and .30-'06 advocates. Would you please give us the facts?—M/Sgt. Paul C. LeBeau, Holloman A.F.B., New Mexico.

Answer by General Hatcher: The .270, by reason of smaller diameter, has less air resistance than a .30-caliber bullet of equal weight. Assuming the same shape of point and the same weight, the .30-caliber bullet would have 22 percent more air resistance than the .270.

If your two bullets had sharp points as near like that of the .30-'06 as possible, and both started out at 3000 feet per second, the .30 caliber would have around 1460 feet per second velocity and 473 foot pounds energy at 500 yards from the muzzle. At the same range, the .270 would have about 1685 feet per second velocity and 630.6 foot pounds energy. Thus the .30 caliber would have 75 percent of the energy of the .270.

If both bullets started at 3500 feet per second, they would wind up at 500 yards with approximately 1768 feet per second velocity and 694 foot pounds energy for the .30 caliber and 2033 feet per second velocity and 918 foot pounds of energy for the .270. Again the .30 comes out with only 75 percent as much punch as its rival the .270.

.30-30 LOADS

I have a few questions regarding reloading .30-30 WCF ammunition for my Marlin 336A. Can I use the Ideal No. 308329 Spitzer point bullet, realizing the load would have to be used single shot? If so, what is the maximum load of DuPont No. 4759 powder to use with it?

What is the maximum load of DuPont No. 4759 powder for the Ideal No. 308252 bullet and the Ideal No. 308291 bullet?—John W. Pense, Jamaica, L. I., N. Y.

Answer by Al Barr: It would pay you to stick to one bullet such as the Ideal 308291. I have quite frequently found that a round-nose gas-check bullet (at the velocity which it can be driven to give good accuracy) is more accurate than a long Spitzer type such as the No. 308329. In most cases I found that, when you try to drive even gas-check bullets much above 1800 feet per second, they will cause lead fouling and inaccuracy.

I used a 154-grain gas-check bullet and 14 grains of 4759 to get 1539 feet per second velocity. You could probably increase that load 2 to 3 grains to get around 1800 feet per second. There is no harm whatsoever

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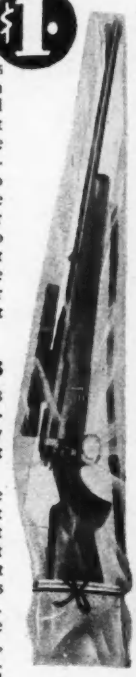

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Use Rust-Pruf Gun Pouches for storing guns or tools safe from rust, etc. The chemical element in the pouch prevents rust by slowly vaporizing. This neutralizes moisture or corrosive gases. The pouch prevents oil or grease on guns from staining walls or clothing in closets. It also keeps out dust, moisture, fingerprints, etc.

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in trying to go higher experimentally, but watch out for leading. These loads will give such low pressure that any of them would be safe. Even up to 20 grains of 4759 would not be a dangerous load with either of the bullets you have in mind.

You might try 4759 with the very light 77-grain bullet, but frankly I don't think it will burn cleanly enough with the load you can use, but start with 12 grains and see what happens. I believe that for a light, short-range load, 6 to 8 grains of Hercules Unique would make a much better combination. You can't drive that plain-base bullet much over 1500 feet per second without it leading or stripping.

EFFECT OF LONG BARREL

If two feet more of barrel were added to a .22 caliber rifle barrel, would it make the aim more accurate, and would the bullet go farther or less than normal?—RIDER SOUTH, San Diego, California.

Answer by Elmer Keith: Twenty-four inches added to the standard .22 rifle barrel would give a much longer sight radius and that much more accurate aim, but on the other hand it would give you considerably lower velocity.

Many years ago Eric Johnson, who was then with the Hoffman Arms Co., boring and rifling barrels, tried a 30-inch .22 long rifle barrel for velocity and tested it for long strings, gradually cutting it back an inch at a time. He reached top velocity, accuracy, and performance at a length of just 18 inches. A longer barrel would create much more drag on the bullet, with reduced velocity.

BRANDON "70-22" SPOTTING SCOPE

Here is about the best prismatic spotting scope we have seen anywhere. Named from the fact that it has a 70-mm. objective and magnification of 22 power, it is very light in weight—only a pound and three-quarters—and most attractive in appearance, in black crackle finish with two bright bands around the front end to add snap. Diameter is three inches, and over-all length is 14⅛ inches. Of course the most obvious way to test a spotting scope is on actual targets but there is another test which will very quickly establish the optical quality, resolution and color correction of any scope. That is to use it on the moons of the planet Jupiter. I have regularly used this method for several years and sometimes have been surprised at the results. This is one scope that passes with flying colors.

The best feature of all is the price of only $49.95. Chester A. Brandon, the designer and manufacturer, of Box 126, Montrose, California, is spare-parts conscious, and intends to see to it that none of his scopes ever become orphans as far as repairs are concerned. With each production lot that goes through the factory, he is making up enough spare parts to last for many years.—J. S. HATCHER.

AMMO FOR .276 DUBIEL

I have a custom-built rifle by John Dubiel of Ardmore, Oklahoma in caliber .276. The action is the Magnum Mauser. So far I am unable to find any ammo for it.

Do you believe that the rifle may be rechambered for one of the 7-mm. Magnums, Mashburn's or Weatherby's, without setting the barrel back?

The rifle is in nearly new condition, apparently never been fired, and is *supposed* to have cost $500.00.—RALPH E. LEWIS, Jr., Jackson, Michigan.

Answer by Elmer Keith: I would never alter that rifle. You can get cases or ammo for it from Griffin & Howe of New York City as they made up some for Don Hopkins. Also, Parker-Whelen in Washington may have them; if not, try J. W. McPhillips of San Bruno, California, who can make the cases from the .300 Magnum and can handload for you.

That should be a fine rifle. It's about as good as any of the big 7-mms. The .285 OKH, .276 Carlson, .280 Halger, .280 Dubiel, and .276 Dubiel, are all about the same with proper loads, also the 7x64 and the .275 H&H. Don't alter that gun; it is OK just as John made it.

THE .35 REMINGTON FOR DEER

What do you think of the .35 Remington as a deer cartridge?—C. PALMER, Denver, Colorado.

Answer by Elmer Keith: I have seen the .35 Remington used on game most of my life—everything from deer and black bear to grizzly, elk and moose. It has been proved to be one of the best deer, black bear and similar-size game cartridges I have seen used for shooting up to a maximum of 200 yards. In fact, it is much better up to 150 yards and under that range it is very certain on all medium-size game. My observation is it has produced more clean one-shot kills than any similar cartridge and I consider it to be one of the two very best timber deer loads.

NEW PRODUCTS

Ramp brake to reduce recoil and eliminate jump is now manufactured by Christy Gun Works, 875-57th Street, Sacramento, California. The recoil reducer and caterpillar ramp front sight are milled from one solid piece of steel, which is intended to be threaded to the muzzle of a rifle. This and other numerous Christy items for shooter and gunsmith are listed in catalog No. 50, furnished free of charge to the trade but procurable by others at 50¢ each.

Instant bluer called Formula 44-40, a product of Numrich Arms Co., Mamaroneck, N. Y., gives fully as deep penetration as any other cold processes and blues almost instantly when applied to clean, warmed steel. For a deeper blue, the steel should be warm and a number of applications applied. This product can be recommended for touch-up work especially or for a reasonably practical complete bluing job.

Rust inhibitor called Incontrol is a product of Inland Sales Company, 600 Oak Grove St., Minneapolis 3, Minnesota. It has been used in our gun room for several months now and it gives good protection against rust, as well as having some good lubricating qualities. The manufacturer claims thin films of rust can be removed with the product.

Bore cleaner, developed by Harold Luth of Holland, Michigan and designated XO 849 Rifle Bore Cleaner, has been tested thoroughly for more than a year by the Holland Rifle & Pistol Club. The cleaner does a thorough cleaning job with a minimum of effort. Its viscosity is that of a cream with good clinging properties. The cleaner also gives protection against rust for a reasonable length of time. In emulsion form, this cleaner will take care of corrosive primer residue also.

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the Model KV

Model KV Weaver-Scope shown with Weaver Detachable Top Mount. Scope $57.50; Mount $9.75.

The Model KV (variable power) is tops in its field. Its magnification is changed by a twist of a knurled knob. The two powers, enlarging the target either 2¾ times or 5 times, can be used as conditions require; making it suitable for just about every kind of shooting. The ideal Christmas gift for any outdoor man—and don't forget sonny and his .22. A Weaver G4 Scope, complete with N Mount, is only $9.75. See these Weaver-Scopes at your Sporting Goods Dealer.

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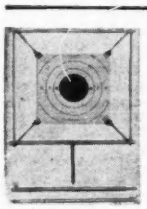

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Mounting jig for installing Weaver top and Stith dovetail mount bases is one of the latest developments of Stith Mounts, 500 Transit Tower, San Antonio 5, Texas. Called the Stith Mounting Jig, the complete set consists of one U-shaped clamp and two mounting bars, one for the Stith dovetail mount and another for the Weaver top mount. For installation on a rifle, the complete scope, mount, and bases are securely clamped on top of the receiver and the scope and mount rings are removed. The U-clamp holds the mounting bar and bases in correct position for drilling and tapping screw holes.

Besides taking guess work out of mounting scopes, the time saved will alone pay for the Mounting Jig. Price is $10.00 with one mounting bar, for either the Stith or Weaver mount, and $5.00 additional for the other.

Bullet lubricant designed to lubricate well in cold weather yet stand up under hot weather conditions has been developed by Cooper-Woodward, P. O. Box 972, Riverside, California. It is available through such distributors as Kerr's in Beverly Hills, Star Machine Works in San Diego, and Beckelhymer in Laredo, Texas. The lubricant is packaged in solid sticks for use in lubricators such as the Star, but a hollow type is available for use in lubricators such as the Ideal. Several outstanding shooters have tried the lubricant and they have classified it as 'the perfect lube'. We have found the Lube works very well in several lubricators and sizers.

Handgun grips, of a semi-transparent Catalin which takes on an appearance similar to marble or onyx, are featured by Maurice D. Scharlack, 241 Melrose, Corpus Christi, Texas. These grips can be made for most foreign side arms at a price of $3.50 to $4.00. When possible, old grips should be sent for a pattern. The grips, which have a plain, smooth and uncheckered surface, are available also with formed finger grooves.

Depth measuring device for checking powder charges loaded in cartridge cases is featured by Wilkins & Schultz, Inc., Box 51, Barrington, Illinois. Called the Sure-Mark charge gauge, it is set for a zero reading and each case can be checked carefully to determine whether or not half a charge or an overcharge has been inserted in each case while loading. The Sure-Mark is practical, and it will help to prevent an overcharge being inadvertently put in the cartridge case.

Superba Gun Polish by Protective Coatings, Inc., Box 3985, Detroit 27, Michigan, is a product that gives an ice-hard, ice-smooth finish on either metal or wood. Rub it on with a cloth, then polish for a few seconds with a dry cloth, and the metal really shines. A two-ounce bottle sells for $1.00.

Peep sight which fits between the windage screws of the Redfield Junior and Buehler mount bases, known as the Dem-Bart-King, is available through Dem-Bart Company, Box 700, Tacoma 1, Washington. This little sight, which has an aperture that is adjustable for windage and elevation independently of the mount base, can be installed quickly after the scope is removed. Opposing windage screws in the mount base hold the sight on the rifle. By merely loosening one windage screw, the sight can be installed or replaced without effecting the windage adjustment of the scope. It is a handy auxiliary sight for $4.75.

BOOK REVIEWS

CENTERFIRE AMERICAN & BRITISH PISTOL & REVOLVER CARTRIDGES

By H. P. White & B. D. Munhall

Here is the first of several planned companion volumes to the excellent *Center Fire Metric Pistol & Revolver Cartridges* published by the same authors a year ago.

The book gives exhaustive and accurate data and dimensions on about 125 cartridges, including a list of all the weapons that each can be used in. Every American and British pistol and revolver cartridge of which a sample is available anywhere is treated under its principal name, together with a drawing in exact size. In addition there are cross reference headings under each of the various other names by which most of these cartridges are known.

Besides those of which actual samples are available, many cartridges which are known only by old catalog listings or other references are included, with every bit of information that could possibly be found anywhere on each one. Where no data is available in the literature, that fact is frankly stated. Sometimes this negative information can be extremely valuable, but most other authors are a little reticent about putting it down.

The book is the same size as Vol. I, *Metric Pistol & Revolver Cartridges*, 8½ x 11½, and has 143 pages crammed full of the best, most accurate and most nearly complete information that has ever been published on this subject. The book has been designated an NRA Library Book and is recommended as the standard on the subject by the NRA. It is an invaluable reference work for law enforcement agencies, collectors and everyone who is interested in firearms information.—J. S. Hatcher.

(Published by Sportsman's Press, Washington, D. C. Price $7.50. Available from NRA Book Service.)

EVERYDAY BALLISTICS

By Dr. Charles S. Cummings II

After going through this book, which contains only 138 pages, very carefully, we find that the author has answered many questions on everyday ballistics similar to those which are asked continually by shooters. It is a practical down-to-earth discussion in nontechnical language of ballistic problems. We have attempted over the years to answer thousands of questions on the subjects which are contained in this particular book.

To just name a few of the important subjects, there are comments on the angle of departure in relation to the angle of elevation and the differences to be expected. Another subject is wind deflection versus distance. The discussion of cant of the rifle sights in relation to the rifle bore is explained briefly but thoroughly.

The reason why the .22 high-speed long-rifle cartridge is more affected by wind than the regular velocity load, is explained here. Bullet yaw and stability are discussed, and though the material covers points that anyone who has done considerable long-range drop shooting should have learned, others who haven't had the opportunity should gather valuable information from the book.

In all, this is a book we would recommend for the average shooter who wants his ballistics in plain simple terms, although some

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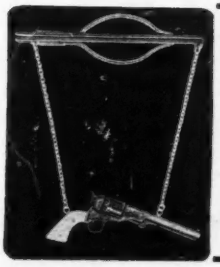

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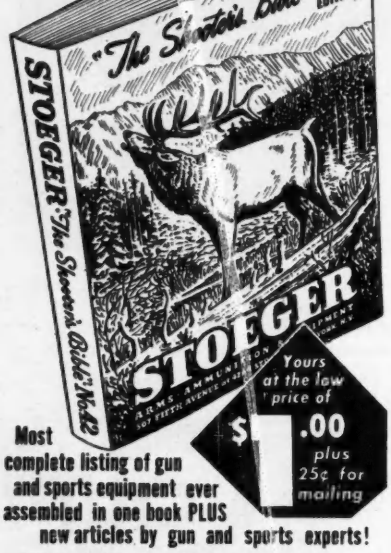
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of the tables will require a little study in order to get the most from them. Why some technical questions cannot be answered efficiently and accurately is explained. The uphill and downhill shooting problem is discussed. And it is extremely interesting to see that the author had stressed the importance of field performance over any other single factor regarding ballistic questions which the rifleman will encounter. We have tried to stress that point for years. For that reason we could not help but recommend this as a very practical book for the everyday shooter.—A. H. Barr.

(Published by Stackpole & Heck, Inc., New York City and Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. 175 pages, 8¼ x 5½ inches. Cloth bound. Price $2.85.)

THE SECRETS OF DOUBLE ACTION SHOOTING

By Bob Nichols

Bob Nichols, who for years was shooting editor of *Field & Stream*, knows his guns, and moreover, he is an experienced and skillful writer who knows how to tell what he has to say. His book is devoted to extolling the merits and advantages of double action as a method of shooting the revolver. This can be done to perfection, he says, only with one particular gun, "the modern standard-action Smith & Wesson Revolver", which is the only gun with the smooth trigger and mainspring action and ball bearing roll to the cylinder that is a necessity for this kind of revolver work. The Colt will not do, he says, as it has what he calls *herkyjerkitis* to a degree that invalidates it for double-action work.

Nichols pays tribute to the old single-action Colt altered to fire by thumbing the hammer, the so-called slip-hammer Colt, as being the first gun that achieved the same combat effect as a skillfully used double action does. He calls it the Purple Poison with Oak Cluster. Afterwards the makers started putting out double-action guns which were used by their purchasers as single actions, but had the disadvantage of being cluttered up with an unused double mechanism. For years the double-action feature had relatively little use, but finally Ed McGivern, "Fast & Fancy" pistol shooter, Lt. John D. Leppert, William E. Peterson all began to attract attention by the very fast and very accurate double-action work they were doing. Bob Nichols became interested, and investigated. His researches along this line have convinced him that by failing to grasp the full potentialities of double-action revolver fire, Americans are missing the most important combat advantages of one-hand firearms.

The author says, "Today we . . . are . . . a nation of single-cocking and safety-releasing bullseye target punchers. Our target is stationary. We shoot in single-cocked, slow, timed, and rapid fire. Our 'Rapid' fire is five shots in ten long seconds. Even among our cops and our military the really deadly combat pistolman is the rare exception rather than the rule. This is scarcely good; not with the way the world is moving today."

Surprisingly, the author nowhere mentions the fact that the FBI long ago adopted double action, and teach that method of firing in their marksmanship courses. This is a provocative book that will make some pistolmen wince, but it is a book that every pistolman should read for the good of his soul.—J. S. Hatcher.

(Published by G. P. Putnam Sons, New York. Price $3.00.)

THE AMERICAN DEER HUNTER
By Francis E. Sell

Here is an easy-to-read book which touches on the many phases of deer hunting in great detail. An entire chapter is devoted to the selection of a rifle, and another explains a method of putting it in condition before the hunt. The information is accurate and should be of considerable value to the beginner with little knowledge of firearms, who is bound to enjoy and benefit by the liberal discussions of snap-shooting and lead on running game.

Sell gives adequate treatment to the various hunting techniques commonly used. One method of deer hunting rarely mentioned in books of this sort is "still hunting with a partner". The author is to be commended for including it, but the subject should have been expanded somewhat.

Sell takes his reader through the detailed steps of cleaning a deer with a number of excellent photographs but then, like nearly all other writers in his field, he leaves the job unfinished. The cutting of meat to table dimensions after quartering is left to the reader's imagination and ignorance. Just a few more pictures in series would have made a tremendous improvement.—J. S. Rose.

(Published by Stackpole and Heck, Inc., New York and Harrisburg, 174 pages, cloth bound, illustrated. Price $3.95.)

SHOTGUNS
By Elmer Keith

This book is one of the finest, and by far the most complete, of the books on the subject that we have seen in recent years. Certainly no one is better qualified to write on shotguns than Elmer Keith. He writes from a world of practical, often hard-earned experience. One can read this book with the assurance that the subject matter has received the personal attention of the author. Any statement contrary to popular belief is made only after careful and extensive tests, and is written as it is found to be through such tests.

A brief history of the shotgun establishes a basis for the host of practical, technical information to follow. Each one of the various types of shotguns, that is, doubles, repeaters, automatics, and single loaders, receive attention. For example—the section devoted to the types of double gun actions will clear up many questions on the various types of locks, both domestic and foreign. The various gauges are related and studied to help the reader determine the gauge most suited to his particular type of hunting. Information on barrels, chambers, choke boring, and the uses of chokes, is set down in an easily understood manner. The sections on stocks and stocking, ribs and stock pitch, sights, ornamentation, and extras will aid the prospective shotgun purchaser in determining what he wants or needs. Information on the making of shot shells, an explanation of shot sizes, buck, ball, and slug, and their uses, and some fine pattern diagrams are included between the covers. Last but by no means least, the author gives a number of helpful hints on gun selection, gun care, cleaning and storage, and the practical use of the shotgun in the field.

This book fills a gap in the shotgun library in that it is one of the most complete and practical studies of shotguns and shotgunning we have had the opportunity of reading to date. It is interlaced with bits of personal experience and profusely illustrated with pictures and drawings of the more popular American and foreign shotguns. It will prove invaluable to the shotgun owner or prospec-

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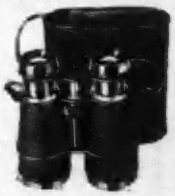

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tive owner, and is well worth the price.—H. C. Smith.

(Published by Stackpole & Heck, Inc., New York City, and Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. 307 pages, cloth bound. Price $5.00.)

HOW TO BE A CRACK SHOT
By Claude Parmelee

Parmelee, dean of present-day exhibition shooters, fills a long-felt need with this 'how-to-do-it' book for the rifle and shotgun shooter. The knowledge which the author has gained in thirty-five years of hunting practice, teaching, and demonstration work in exhibition and field shooting with all types of guns, is passed on to the reader in plain, everyday language. The volume is small, with only seventy-eight pages of eight-by-eleven inch size, but each subject is profusely illustrated with sketches and action pictures.

The author discusses and illustrates such controversial subjects as aerial rifle shooting, stance, the pivot, stopping a bear, how to hit a running deer, skeet, trap, and numerous others in practical, simple terms. There are no references made to the theoretical sides of these problems. Safe gun handling is constantly stressed, with the last page picturing the author holding an automatic shotgun in a safe position and featuring the "Ten Commandments of Safety".

The book will be an excellent addition to any shooting library, where it will be used as a ready reference on exhibition and field shooting.—R. B. Warye.

(Published by Greenberg, New York City. 78 pages, paper bound. Price $2.50.)

MAUSER BOLT RIFLES
By Ludwig Olson

Here is a 67-page paper-bound book containing the best compilation of data that we have yet seen on the various military Mausers.

It starts with a history of the partnership of the two Mauser brothers and building of this great organization for supplying military rifles to the world. There is also an explanation of the Mauser and Mannlicher connections.

The main part of the book gives an excellent detailed description of all the various Mausers, starting with the single shots and ending with the latest military models. Illustrations and complete data are given for each of thirty-six models. The information is by far the best and most accurate that we have seen on this subject, which is only natural considering the fact that the author had access to the Aberdeen Proving Ground's Foreign Material Collection and to Colonel G. B. Jarrett's personal collection, and had the benefit of Colonel Jarrett's help in the compilation.

The book concludes with a chapter on military ammunition, both blackpowder and smokeless, adapted to the Mausers.

A limited edition of this very valuable reference work has been privately printed by the author and can be obtained from him at $3.50. His address is Master Sergeant Ludwig E. Olson, Quarters 214-E, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland.—J. S. Hatcher.

GUNSMITHING SIMPLIFIED
By Harold E. MacFarland

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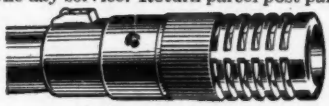

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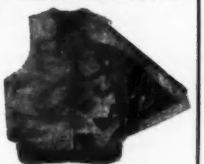

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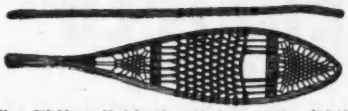

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Outer bag 30" x 69". Wt. 4½ lbs.—Full Zip.
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"CHIEF" 100% WOOL FILLED 3 lbs wool filling. Full separating zipper (two bags can be zipped together). Air mattress pocket. Water repellent cover. Wt. 7½ lbs. One bag only, size 34x76 Ppd. **$16.95**
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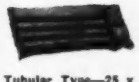

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See your dealer or gunsmith. Folder sent on request. Be sure to give make and model of gun.

REDFIELD GUNSIGHT CO.

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An Ideal Xmas Gift

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Something new for the shooter who wants the best. We offer you a round block that holds fifty .22 caliber Long Rifle shells, enclosed in a neat plastic housing. Base holds 14 "sighters." No chance of a miscount of shots on a target—only 5 shells in sight at a time. Rows are numbered, to tell you at a glance how many shots you have fired. Price $4.00. Discount to Dealers on lots of 6 or more.

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OUTERS LABORATORIES, Inc., Dept. AR-12 • ONALASKA, WIS.

the home workshopman or amateur gunsmith was *Modern Gunsmithing* by the late Clyde Baker, originally brought out about 1928. The author of this new book, MacFarland, does not make any attempt to conceal his admiration for Baker's volume.

The author has shown originality in the way he has worked out many simple, and sometimes complicated, gunsmithing problems. MacFarland is an old-time gunsmith and he has learned many tricks of the trade in his own way, working out the problems as they come to him.

In all, the book, 7½ x 10 inches, contains 302 pages and eighteen chapters plus a very useful directory and index. The text includes 247 pages, and the remainder of the book gives charts and tables on various subjects such as thread dimensions and tap drill sizes, and, more important, dimensions of the most popular front sights made in this country to fit all different rifles—indeed a handy reference table for any gunsmith.

Anyone with reasonable mechanical ability will get many useful suggestions from the book. Some of them will have to be worked out in detail, but the idea alone is well worth reading about. The down-to-earth methods of doing many jobs are described in the book and in that respect it should appeal to a lot of gunsmiths, especially the sincerity of the author in revealing what he apparently has learned in the game, the hard way.—A. H. BARR.

(Copyright 1950 by Harold E. MacFarland. A Sportsman's Press Book published by Combat Forces Press, Washington 6, D. C. 302 pages, cloth bound, price $6.95. The book has been recommended as a standard one on the subject by the National Rifle Association of America.)

OFFICIAL HUNTING BOOK

Edited by Charles R. Jacobs

This collection of short articles and tables includes the work of fourteen writers of widely varying backgrounds and ability. Its three major sections, pertaining to hunting with the rifle, hunting with the shotgun, and applicable legislation, are in turn reduced to geographical and zoological sub divisions.

As might be expected when an attempt to cover all phases of hunting in North America is confined to one hundred and sixty pages, the treatment is generally shallow. The subject of waterfowl hunting is emphasized somewhat but its coverage is hardly all-inclusive.

The section dealing with state game laws is an unfortunate waste of space. Much of the information contained in it is not accurate even for this season, let alone the fall of 1951. It could be a source of considerable inconvenience and embarrassment to the reader who might engage in illegal hunting simply because he had failed to notice an inconspicuous abbreviation of the word 'approximate' which appears with the laws of half of the states.

The book is certain to provide entertaining reading for many hunters but it can hardly be accepted as a comprehensive reference as the name implies.—J. S. ROSE.

(A Paul Richmond Book from Crown Publishers, New York. 160 pages, paper bound, illustrated with photographs and diagrams, index. Price $1.50. Clothbound edition, $2.50.)

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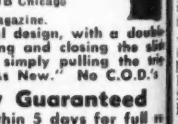

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THE ARMS CHEST

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2. Closing Date: All advertisements must be received with advance payment by not later than the 1st of the month preceding date of issue. (Example: Jan. 1st for the Feb. issue. Ads received after Jan. 1st and not later than Feb. 1st will be inserted in the March issue.)

3. All Ads Subject to These Conditions: We reserve the right to edit all copy to conform with our standards and to reject or discontinue any advertisement which we consider undesirable.

4. Transactions Based on Good Faith: Deliberate misrepresentation, or violation of the codes of good sportsmanship and good business ethics, will constitute grounds for refusal of advertising, and may result in disbarment from N.R.A. membership.

5. Blind Ads Not Acceptable: Blind ads, with box numbers *only*, will not be accepted. Give your COMPLETE name and address, to insure prompt and certain delivery of all mail or telegraph replies.

NOTE: Postal authorities no longer are required to provide directory service for even first-class mail which does not carry a *complete* local address!

6. How to Count Numerals, Etc.: Groups of figures are counted as one word (example: .30-30, 250-3000, $150.00, $1.50). Abbreviations consisting of initials or single characters are counted as one word (example: W. H. Smith (W. H. counts as one word); H. B., meaning heavy barrel, etc.; W. H. and H. B. are one word) Hyphenated words are counted as two words (example: 20-gauge, pearl-handled, no-slip).

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9. WARNING TO PURCHASERS: The publishers *will accept no responsibility* for *any* unsatisfactory transaction involving articles which have not been described in accordance with the foregoing NRA standards. Purchasers or traders should therefore insist that sellers give clear descriptions of all articles, in accordance with these standards—*before* any transactions are consummated. Purchasers should also request shipment by express C.O.D., *with examination privileges;* the purchaser may (and should) then examine the shipment in his local express office—if unsatisfactory the article will then be returned by the express company to the shipper, at the latter's expense.

10(a). The National Firearms Act forbids the sale of the following: (*a.*) Full automatic machine guns. (*b.*) Rifles and shotguns with barrels less than 18 inches in length or 16 inches in the case of a weapon of .22 or smaller caliber. (*c.*) Handguns such as the Mauser or Luger automatic pistols, when such weapons are equipped with detachable butt stocks, except that all of the above may be sold by a Federal licensed dealer who has paid the special tax required by Section 3260, Internal Revenue Code. NOTE:—"Barrel length", as it applies to the above, is determined by the insertion of a cleaning rod from the muzzle until it comes to rest against the face of the closed breech.

(b). In addition, the NRA has adopted a policy of not accepting advertisements covering small pocket handguns, or any handguns having barrel lengths of 2 inches or less, which have no practical value as target, police or military weapons.

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GENUINE BUCKSKIN GLOVES. SEND money order for $2.50. We pay postage. State size. Whitewater Glove Co., Whitewater, Wisconsin.

SPRINGFIELD STYLE T, DCM, 30" HEAVY match barrel, unaltered, 1314146, Lyman '48, Winchester Globe, Very Good, $125.00. Fair issue Krag, $25.00. Good Krag Sporter, $35.00; another with Redfield 70, $45.00. Excellent issue Enfield, $40.00. Lyman 5A Scope with non-click micrometer mounts, V.G., $25.00. F. Baldwin, 722 N. Grove, Oak Park, Illinois.

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INVENTORS—IF YOU BELIEVE YOU HAVE an invention, we can make a preliminary search of your invention and advise you whether we think it can be patented. Send for copy of our Patent Booklet "How to Protect Your Invention" and "Invention Record" form. No obligation. McMorrow, Berman and Davidson, Registered Patent Attorneys, 2518 Victor Building, Washington 1, D.C.

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DUCK DECOYS, VICTOR VERI-LITE, MALlards, Blue Bills, Pin Tails, Red Heads, value $22.00, $12.50 per doz. Public Sport Shops, 11 S. 16th Street, Philadelphia 2, Pa.

.45-70 BLANK CARTRIDGES, $4.00 PER 100. .45-70 Loaded Rifle Cartridges, $10.00 per 100. .762 Russian Rifle Cartridges, $10.00 per 100. .303 British Rifle Cartridges, $10.00 per 100. .45 Automatic Pistol Cartridges, $5.00 per 100. .351 Winchester self-loading, $8.00 per 100. .25 cal. Stevens Rim Fire, $3.00 per 100. .32 cal. Rim Fire Shorts, $3.50 per 100. .32 cal. Rim Fire longs, $4.00 per 100. .401 Win. Self-Loading Cartridges, $8.50 per 100. .33 Win. Rifle Cartridges, $15.00 per 100. .405 Winchester rifle cartridges, $15.00 per 100. Public Sport Shops, 11 S. 16th Street, Philadelphia 2, Pa.

PERCUSSION COLT AND REMINGTON parts. Flint and percussion locks. List 25¢. C. H. Weisz, 100 South Uhle Street, Arlington, Virginia.

BULLET TRAPS—SAFE AND EFFICIENT with .22 caliber L.R. and all hand guns including .45 caliber. Full 16x16" opening. Complete with removable legs, $25.00 F.O.B. factory. Freight shipping weight 65 lbs. Please send check or money order. Wire Rope Products Co., Winsor Avenue, Hamilton, Rhode Island.

NEW MODELS, 5E, 4E, ITHACA TRAP guns, 43 Hornet, Bee, Mod. 70s, all calibers, Mod. 721, 722, all calibers, 141 Remingtons, 99 Savages. Large selection guns, rifles, handarms, scopes. Specify. No catalog. Overly's Gun Rack, Ephrata, Penna.

SAVE AMMUNITION! YOU'LL GET MORE hits, use fewer shells with a Poly-Choke on your favorite "single". Write for free copy of "Wing Shooters Handbook" today. The Poly-Choke Co., 2771 Tunxis St., Hartford, Conn.

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SERVICEABLE SA COLT PARTS: HAMMER $4.00; trigger $1.50; gate $2.25; trigger guard $4.50; ejector head $2.00; mainspring $2.00; screws 35¢ each; hand w/spring $2.00; .45x5-½" barrels, Pitted $3.00. 20-Shot magazine for .30/06 Springfield $7.50. Parts for C&B revolvers. B. K. Wingate, Box 154, Carlisle, Pa.

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See above for full instructions.

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Belding & Mull...Visible $12.50; Lyman... 10.00
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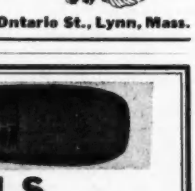

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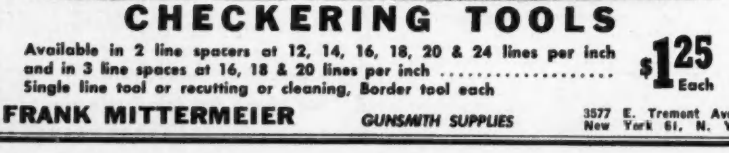

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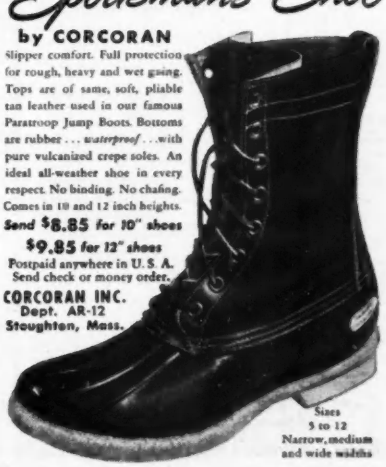

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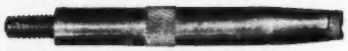

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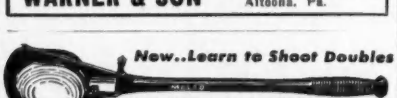

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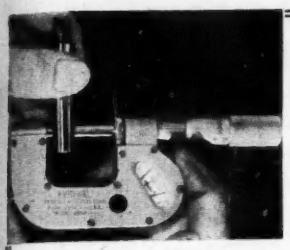

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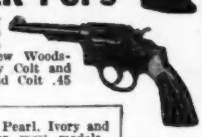

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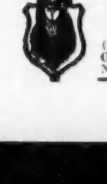

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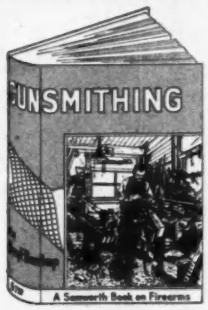

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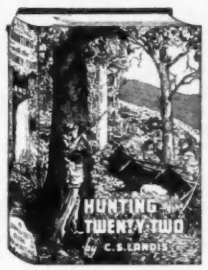

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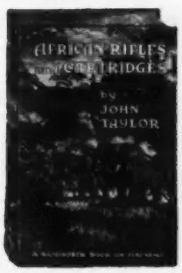

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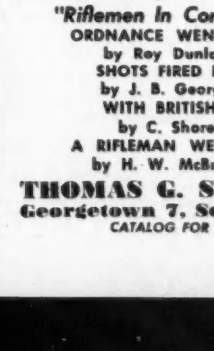

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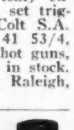

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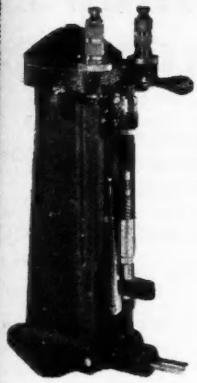

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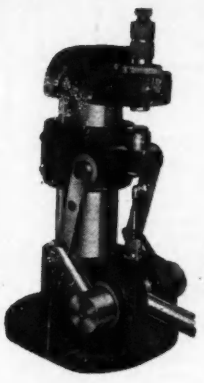

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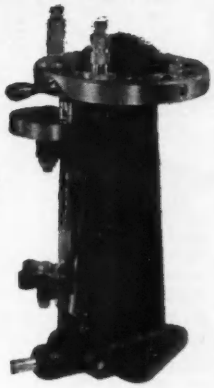

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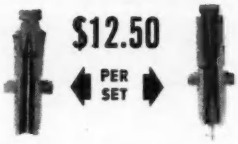

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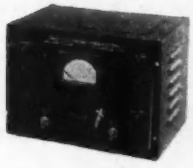

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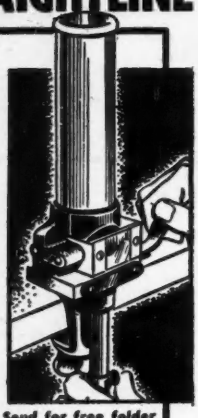

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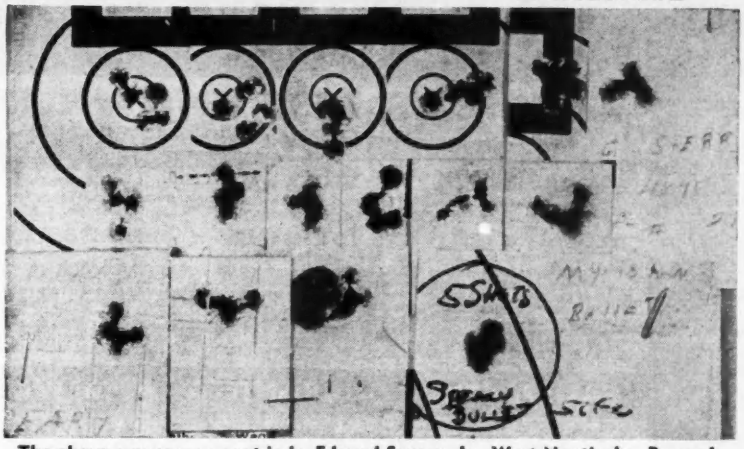

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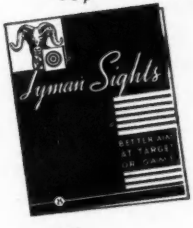

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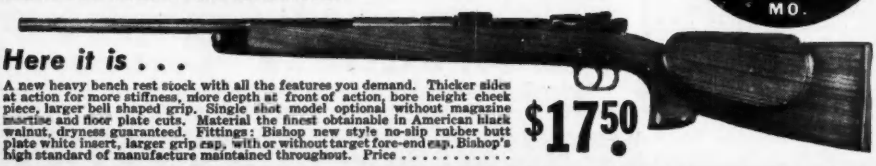

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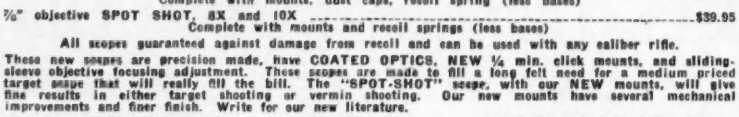

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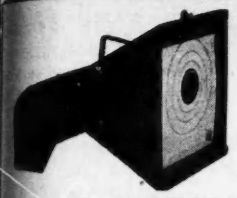

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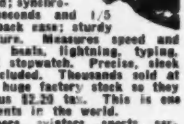

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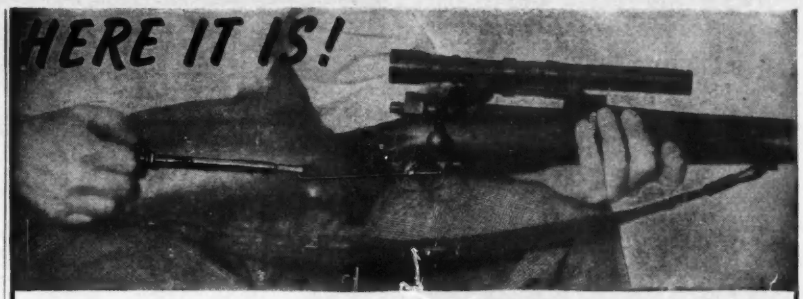

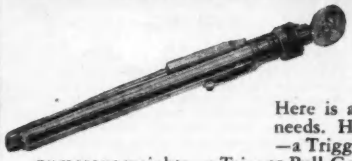

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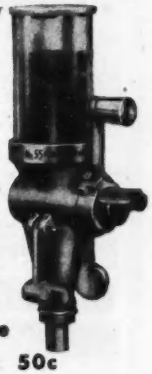

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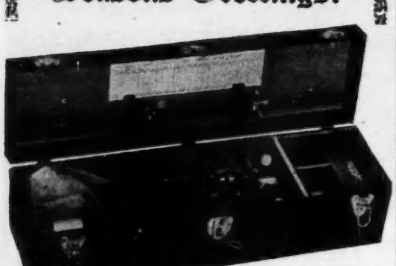

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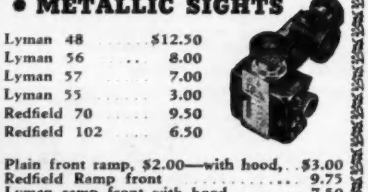

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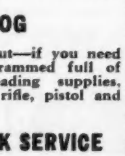

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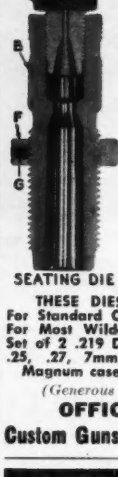

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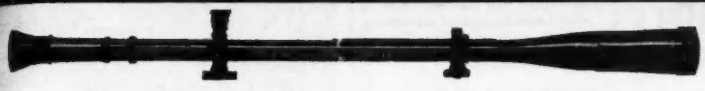

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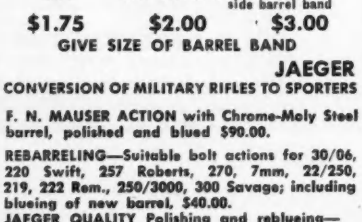

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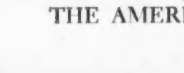

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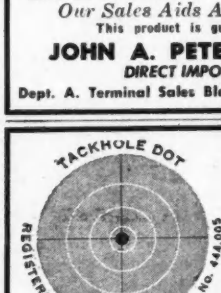

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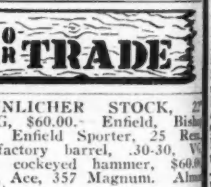

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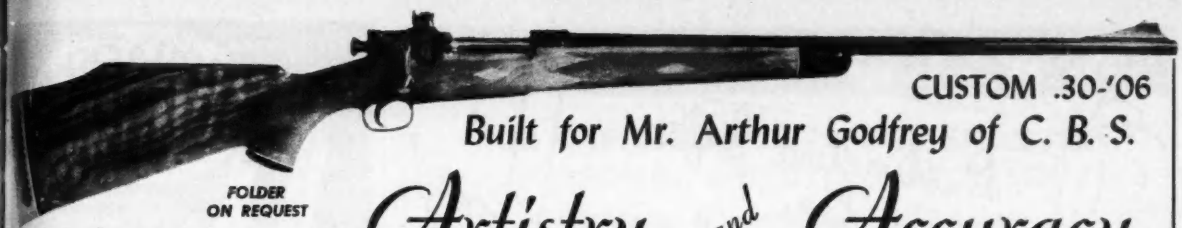

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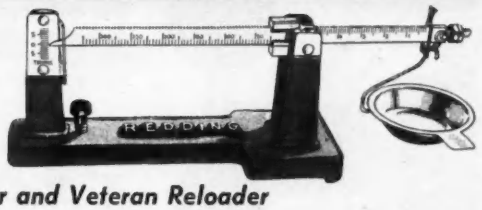

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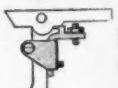

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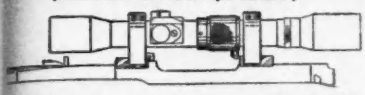

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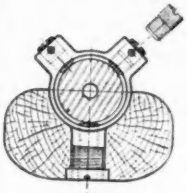

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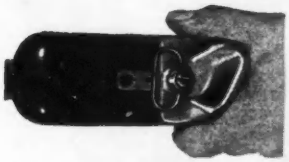

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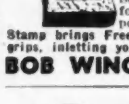

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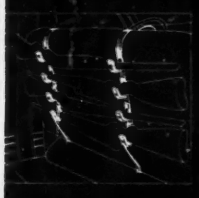

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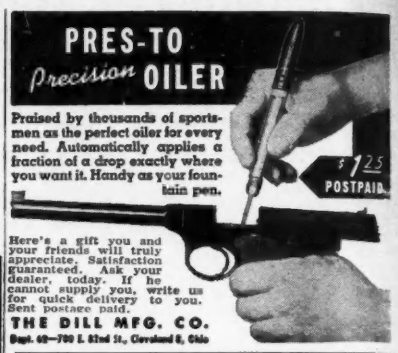

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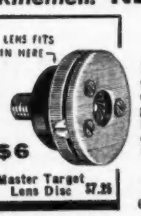

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219	Zipper (Std)
219	Zipper Imp.
25/20	W.C.F.
25/35	Winchester
17 Cal.	Fuller
30/30	W.C.F.
30/40	Krag
32	Winch. Sp.
32/40	Winchester
33	Winchester

BELTED

300 H&H	Magnum
375 H&H	Magnum
300 Imp.	Magnum
375 Imp.	Magnum

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6.5MM	Jap .257
7MM	Mauser
7MM	Imp. Mag.
8MM	Mauser
8MM-06	
22/250	
220	Swift
257	Roberts
250	Donaldson
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30/06	Springfield
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410 x 3"	Shotgun
12 Ga.	Shotgun
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Available in 2¾" and 3".

IMMEDIATE DELIVERY from stock, of Roughers, Finishers, Case Sizers

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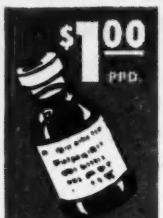

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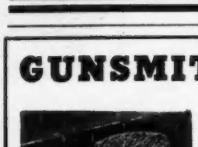

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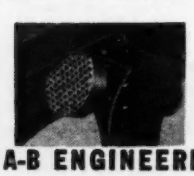

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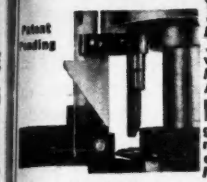

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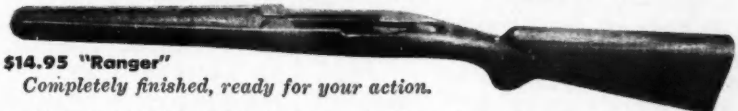

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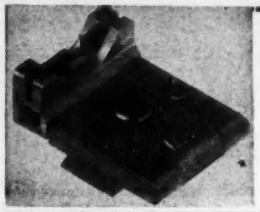

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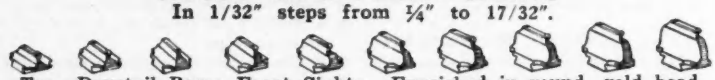

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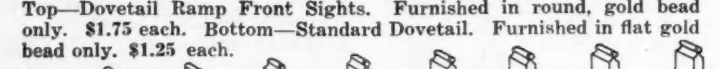

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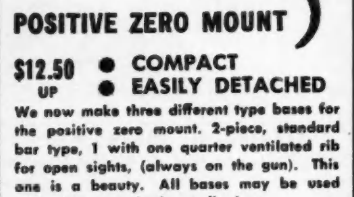

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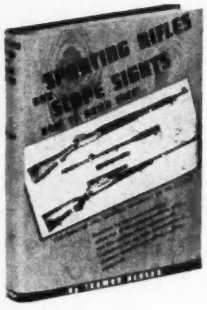

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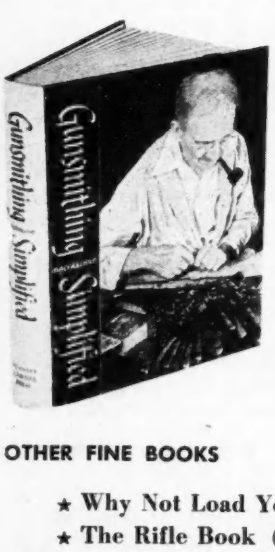

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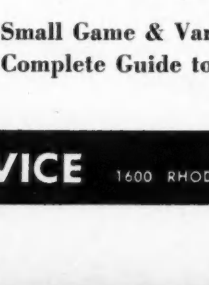

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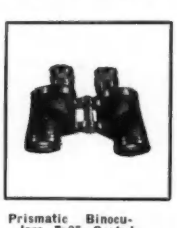

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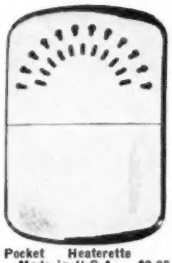

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